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A
JOURNAL
OF THE
PASSAGE FROM INDIA,
BY A ROUTE PARTLY UNFREQUENTED,
THROUGH
ARMENIA AND NATOLIA,
OR
ASIA MINOR.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
OBSERVATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS,
FOR THE USE OF THOSE WHO INTEND TO TRAVEL, EITHER
TO OR FROM INDIA, BY THAT ROUTE.

By THOMAS HOWEL, MD.
AND IN THE SERVICE OF THE HONOURABLE EAST
INDIA COMPANY.

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1788

T O
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BRIGADIER GENERAL,

IN THE SERVICE OF THE
HONOURABLE EAST INDIA COMPANY, &c. &c. &c.

T H I S
J O U R N A L

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY HIS MOST FAITHFUL,
AND DEVOTED HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.



JOURNAL, &c.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1787. I set out from Madras in company with Colonel Bruce and his family, who were going to Trichinopoly; but, owing to severe rainy weather, we did not reach that place till the 17th. Having spent a few days with General Horne, who then commanded in the southern provinces, and my other friends at Trichinopoly, I pursued my journey, and on

September 24th, arrived at Madura, where I joined Major Macleod, who commanded in this place, and who was to accompany me on my route to England. As the Major was not quite ready for the journey, our departure was deferred till

October 1st, when we set off, and arrived at Palamcotta October 5th. Here the hospitality of Colonel Bridges, the commanding officer, induced us to spend a few days. This pleasure we the more readily allowed ourselves, as we were not without hopes of obtaining a passage on board a Dutch vessel, then at Tutocorin, which we had heard was to sail in a few days for Columbo, and from thence with troops to Cochin, where there was the greatest probability of meeting with a vessel bound to Bombay. But as we were soon after informed that she would not sail for a fortnight, we determined to prosecute our journey by land to Anjango. Accordingly, on

October 10th, we left Palamcotta, and arrived that night at Calcade, where we spent the next day very agreeably, with Captain Macneal.

October 12th. We set out from Calcade at six o'clock in the morning, and came to the village of Panagoody, where we rested half an hour; we then proceeded to Aramne,
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the barrier between the territories of the Nabob of Arcot, and those of the King of Travancore. After dinner, we set out again, and arrived at Cotate, where we were obliged to put up in the church; for in this part of the country there are no Choultries* for travellers, who, however, find an equal convenience in the churches, which, at the distance of a mile or two from each other, line a considerable extent of the coast.

October 13th. We left Cotate at five o'clock in the morning, and at twelve arrived at Colaché, a pretty large village by the sea-side. Here we put up in a good house, which we found uninhabited. Our road this day was very bad, and consisted of lanes and narrow paths, impassable to wheel carriages, as is, I believe, the greatest part of this country. The ground was so broken, that we were frequently obliged to alight from our palanquins.

* There are no inns in Hindostan. Travellers are obliged to put up in public buildings called Choultries, which resemble in their use the Turkish caravansary.

The face of the country is laid out in small enclosures; and, though not rich in appearance, produces pepper, and abounds with Palmyra trees.

October 14th. At five o'clock in the morning we set out from Colaché, and proceeded along the sea-side to a village, called Tean-gapatam, where we crossed the river Curgriar in a canoe. Three miles further on, we crossed the Neyar, also in a canoe, which was so small, that there was reason to apprehend its sinking before it reached the opposite bank. We halted this day at a village on the sea-side, called Pooar, and took possession of the church, to shelter us from the heat of the sun, which was excessive. We found the shore lined with huts of fishermen, who live in great misery, and solicit the charity of the traveller with loud and pressing importunity. They have hardly any other food than fish, and even with this they seemed, at that time, to be ill supplied, as the surf was too high for them to venture out to sea. Their bodies were in the highest degree emaciated, and covered

vered by filthy sores, which, it is probable, are occasioned by the poverty and unwholesomeness of their diet. These distressed people are generally of the Romish church, and descendants of those, whom the Portuguese, either by force, or persuasion, made profelytes to the Christian religion. They are held in the most sovereign contempt by the inland inhabitants, who not only avoid all intercourse with them, but are even solicitous not to approach them. The King engrosses the trade of the whole country; no improbable cause of the distress and misery we observed among the wretched inhabitants.

October 15th. We proceeded in the morning across the river Pally-Yally, about four miles to the northward of a village called Villinjan, which is situated at the bottom of a small bay. The neighbouring country is rather hilly, and covered with jungle*; that part of it which is next the sea abounds in

* Jungle is a term used in the East Indies, which implies thicket.

cocoa-trees. We halted this day in a church called Pollythoor, where we found five or six black Padres, or Priests, clothed in the European fashion. One of them, who said he had been educated in Europe, took upon himself the office of a bishop among them, and exacted a considerable degree of respect and attention; which, from these high pretensions, the rest seemed very willing to allow him. Though these people are of as dark a complexion as any other of the natives, they have the vanity to claim their descent from Europeans, and pretend that the blood of the Portuguese still flows in their veins. The Bishop did not seem to have derived much improvement from his pretended European education; for, equally with his clergy, he was grossly ignorant and illiterate.

October 16th. We left Pollythoor at five o'clock in the morning, and proceeding about three miles, crossed a river, which leads to Trevinderam, the residence of the King of Travancore, distant from us about five miles. After travelling about ten miles, we crossed
another,

another, about a mile from Anjango, or Angitanghee, where we arrived about ten o'clock. We alighted at the house of the resident, Mr. Hutchinson, who received us with great civility. Here the India Company have a small fort and a factory.

October 17th. We rested at Anjango, and were informed, that if we had kept a more inland course, close to the hills, we should have found a better road, and avoided the sands on the sea-shore. We had, however, taken that way which had been pointed out to us by one of the King's men.

October 18th. As we found there was no immediate prospect of a conveyance by sea from hence to Bombay, being rather too early in the season for the return of ships to this coast after the monsoon, we set out at six o'clock in the morning for Cochin, in hopes of being more successful at that place. About half way between Anjango and Quilon we passed through a tolerably well built village, called Peroo, and about a mile from thence,

our palanquins being fastened on canoes, we crossed a lake, which, at the distance of three miles, communicates with the sea. After proceeding for some time, through a very pleasant and fertile country, we arrived at twelve o'clock at Quilon, a Dutch settlement. The Governor, a respectable old gentleman, who talks English, received us with the greatest civility, and gave us the use of his country-house. Quilon is a strong, handsome fort, built of hewn stone and Chunam, and erected about two hundred years ago by the Portuguese. This place is not so well known as it seems to deserve; for independent of the commercial and political advantages of its situation, which are considerable, it possesses natural beauties superior to most other settlements in this part of the world. The situation is healthy, the environs rich and beautiful; in a word, were I to choose a private residence for myself, I know no spot where retirement would have so many charms as at Quilon.

October 19th. We left Quilon in boats, at about nine o'clock in the morning, and
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at the dawn of the following day arrived at Porcade, a large village on the sea-side.

October 20th. About three o'clock in the afternoon we re-embarked in boats on the river, and at eight next morning arrived at Cochin. This trip by water would have been very pleasant if the weather had been favorable; but the wind was boisterous, and the mats that covered our boats were too thin to turn the heavy rain that fell during the night. These boats, with more propriety, might be termed canoes, for if a puff of wind came suddenly on, or we moved carelessly in them, they were in imminent danger of being over-set. Whenever the squall was violent we were obliged to put in towards the shore, in order to be under the shelter of the trees. Cochin is a handsome town, built in the European manner, and strongly fortified both by art and nature. It is almost surrounded by water, and accessible only on one side.

October 21st. We supped with Mr. Anglebeck, the Governor, who, during our stay
at

at Cochin, treated us with singular politeness and hospitality. An uncommon degree of attention is paid to Dutch Governors in the places they command; few sovereigns claim more marks of personal respect from their subjects, than those exacted by these lordly chiefs from their inferiors. We were unfortunate in not reaching Cochin earlier: four days before our arrival an American brig had set sail from this place for Bombay. This opportunity having been lost, and no prospect appearing that we should be able to procure a passage from hence by sea, we were prevailed on to proceed higher up the coast to Tellicherry, where there was a greater probability of finding a vessel bound to Bombay. We continued at Cochin till the morning of

October 26th, when we set sail in a Patamar* for Tellicherry, where we arrived

* The Patamars are open boats carrying four or five tons; on account of their being excellent sailers, they are frequently employed in conveying letters and dispatches.

October 29th. During our voyage thither the days were fair, but the nights very rainy; so that, as we were badly sheltered in the Patamar, we were almost constantly wet and uncomfortable. We were kindly and hospitably entertained by Mr. Lewis, the chief, till

November 9th, when we embarked, after dinner, on board a country vessel bound to Bombay.

November 17th. We put into Goa, and on the 18th went on shore to visit the churches and convents. Goa cannot with propriety be called a town: the houses stand separate, and sometimes at a considerable distance from each other, along the banks of a fine river. As they are confined on one side by the water, and on the other by steep hills, the inhabitants could not, as is usual, lay them out in streets; a few small ones, however, are seen in the neighbourhood of the Viceroy's palace, which is a handsome and well constructed building. The military works are also scattered in different quarters; the strongest

est of them *are those that command the mouth of the river, which admits large ships to lie within a few yards of the houses. The churches and convents are the chief ornament of this place; they are magnificent structures, and very richly decorated; but their windows, like those of the houses, are generally composed of thin, semi-transparent oyster shells. Goa, the principal establishment of the Portuguese in India, was taken by them in 1508. It was formerly a place of considerable trade, but since the expulsion of the Jews, who were rich in ready money, has been gradually declining. At present, it is rather a losing settlement, from the necessity of keeping up a strong military force, to oppose the encroachments and thwart the ambitious views of its powerful neighbour, Tippoo Sultan. Were this settlement in the hands of the English, it would be found of more value than either Tellicherry or Bombay; for it would be a constant check on the Mahrattas, and, in case Tippoo should be instigated to invade the Carnatic, an army might be always in readiness at Goa to march
into

into his country, and recal his attention from projects of foreign conquest, to the security of his own dominions.

November 19th. We re-embarked at Goa, and arrived at Bombay.

November 26th. As we were making the harbour, we passed a fleet of Mahratta pirates unnoticed: the vessel we were on board of had been taken by them the year before; but, through the interference of the Governor of Bombay, it was restored to its owners. These pirates attack vessels of all nations whatsoever, except those of the English, which our marine at Bombay obliges them to respect. Between Goa and Bombay they sometimes issue out with a numerous fleet of boats, with which they daringly attack vessels of considerable force. We were unfortunate in not arriving sooner at Bombay; for, a few days before, one of the Company's cruisers had failed for Buffora. There was now no opportunity of departing before the 13th of January, 1788.

December

December 21st. We visited the famous cave, on the island of Elephanta. This extraordinary piece of antiquity has been already described by the ingenious and correct Mr. Ives; I shall therefore attempt no description of it here, but refer my reader to the accurate plan given of it in that gentleman's journal.

January 13th, 1788. In the evening we set sail for Buffora, in the Drake snow, commanded by Captain Borlase. We were now joined by Lieutenant Morris, of Bombay, who was to accompany us on our journey over land to England.

January 18th. The wind was high, and the vessel pitched to such a degree, that I was forced from a rope, by which I held, and thrown with great violence against the rails.

January 20th, being in 60 degrees east longitude, we saw the Persian shore.

January 24th. In the morning we saw the coast of Arabia Felix, about ten leagues to the southward of Muscat.

January

January 27th. We anchored about two o'clock P. M. at Muscat, and in the evening went ashore. Muscat is situated at the foot of lofty, naked rocks, by which it is surrounded, and extends to the bottom of a bay: the houses are meanly built, from want of the necessary materials; for neither earth nor wood are found here, but are brought in boats from a considerable distance. It is defended by three ill-constructed and ruinous castles, one of which was nearly demolished some years ago by a French frigate, whose people were engaged in a dispute with the inhabitants. Since that time, the French have not thought it safe to put in here; but I understand that their government have endeavoured to negotiate a reconciliation by presents.

The summer months here are exceedingly sultry and unhealthy; the rocks being so heated by the sun in the day time, that they do not cool during the night.

The Portuguese were once in possession of Muscat; but were driven out by the Arabs, who

who put the whole garrison to the sword, except a very few soldiers, who redeemed their lives by embracing the Mahometan faith. The bay is small, but affords good anchorage, and vessels lying in it are sheltered from the fury of the north-west winds, which prevail in these seas : it is, I believe, the only port we are acquainted with on this coast, as far as the mouth of the Euphrates. The appearance of Muscat does not prepossess the traveller in favour of Arabia Felix ; instead of those scenes of pleasantness and fertility, which the distinguished epithet of *HAPPY*, has taught him to expect; he discovers nothing but inhospitable and rugged rocks, without a tree, a shrub, or any kind of verdure.

January 30th. In the morning we left Muscat.

February 1st. We saw the Gaudel coast in Persia.

February 3d. Going at the rate of seven knots an hour, with a fair and gentle gale, we
passed

passed, early in the morning, Cape Jasques, on the Persian, and at five o'clock in the afternoon, Cape Musseldom, on the Arabian coast. At six o'clock P.M. we weathered the Coins, three rocks at the entrance of the gulph of Persia.

February 4th. About four o'clock A.M. we found ourselves entangled among the rocks, called the Tombs, a name, which, from the imminent danger that surrounded us, we considered as truly ominous. The wind came upon us in sudden and violent squalls, while vivid flashes of lightning, by giving an occasional and imperfect view of the perils that hemmed us in on every side, rendered the darkness that succeeded them doubly distressing. In this dreadful situation we remained till the return of day enabled us to extricate our vessel. Meer Joad, late Captain Bacha at Buffora, and whom I shall have frequent occasion to mention, was a passenger with us from Bombay. This Turk, notwithstanding the Mahometan doctrine of predestination, continued praying in the cabin with

the utmost fervour and devotion, till he thought we were out of danger; confessing, that he had never before felt so much fear, though he was a soldier of fortune, and, in the course of long military service, had been exposed to the greatest perils. About two o'clock, P.M. we passed the rock of Polior, on our right; and soon after another rock, on our left. At eight o'clock, P.M. we took in sail: we had a gentle gale, with thunder, lightning, and heavy rain all night; it was very dark, and we expected soon to pass by another rock. We were this day, by observation, in latitude 26—20, North.

February 5th. We were to day, by observation, in latitude 26—39; the weather cloudy: it blew hard at night. Finding ourselves in twenty-five fathom water, near the pearl banks, we bore away for the Persian shore.

February 8th. We were between Capes Naband and Burdistan.

February

February 9th. We doubled Cape Burdistan, about seven o'clock, A.M. going at the rate of about seven knots an hour, with a fair breeze. About nine o'clock, A.M. the appearance of the sky, in the north-west quarter, made us apprehend the approach of a violent storm, which, before ten, came on us with tremendous fury. Our main topsail was soon split; and though the main and other yards were immediately taken down, our most strenuous endeavours were hardly equal to the management of the vessel. Fortunately the squall did not last above an hour; otherwise we should have incurred the most imminent danger of driving on the Persian shore, then within two leagues of us. As the wind was foul, we came to an anchor about five o'clock, P.M. and it blew very fresh the whole night. Meer Joad, who was quite dispirited by our ill luck in weather, continued his practice of praying, on every appearance of danger.

February 12th. In the evening we came to an anchor in the roads of Boushier, and went ashore, to the house of Mr. Watkins, the India Company's Resident, by whom we were kindly entertained till the 14th.

Boushier is a small town, in Persia, near the mouth of a river, and meanly built for the want of wood, which is very scarce in these countries. It is the residence of a Shaik Nasser, an Arab Chief, tributary to the Persians. The bazar, or market-place, is well supplied with provisions and fruits, as well as coarse shawls, and other cloths. The surrounding country, which is naked, and without verdure, exhibits a dreary and unpleasant prospect. The only curiosities I saw here, were two large brass guns, which had been cast at Goa, and were now lying dismounted without the town: the caliber of one of them will receive a ball of forty-two pounds. Many other brass guns, of a large bore, lay neglected on the sand, by the river side; for the Persians hardly know how to use them. An old ship of the line,
which

which belonged to the famous Nadir Shaw, Sophi of Persia, has been rotting, for these fifty years past, in the middle of the river.*

February

* There are, at present, three competitors for the crown of the great and once powerful empire of Persia; one of whom resides at Ispahan, and another at Shiras. The latter of these princes, whose name is Jaffier Cawn, and who is the most powerful of the two, having heard, that in the general confusion of public affairs, a chief of great importance had set up an independent government at Yezd, sent to him to demand a tribute, and his personal attendance at Shiras, to do homage for the country he held. The chief of Yezd, suspecting that Jaffier Cawn was meditating some of those acts of cruel treachery, which are so common among the princes of the East, expressed his willingness to become tributary, but at the same time declined, under various pretences, the personal attendance required of him at Shiras. Jaffier Cawn, finding that he could not make himself master of the chief of Yezd's person by stratagem, determined to attack him with a powerful force: for this purpose he marched towards Yezd, at the head of twenty thousand chosen troops; while the chief, who knew that the mildest fate that would await him, if he fell into the hands of his antagonist, was the loss of his eyes, his liberty, and his government, made every exertion that his critical situation demanded; and, determined on conquest or death, took the field with all the powers he could assemble. The

February 15th. Shaik Naffer refused to allow us a pilot, unless we would employ him up the Euphrates. To this imposition, which the Shaik attempted, because he shares in the hire of the pilots, Captain Borlase determined not to submit; but to take the charge of conducting the ship out of the harbour himself. Accordingly we weighed our anchor, and had proceeded about two miles, when a squall obliged us to drop it again. After an hour, the weather becoming calmer, we weighed again; and, through the judgment and

two armies met, and came to action: the fortune of the day was quickly decided; for, in the first onset, the troops of Shiras, unable to withstand the powerful and spirited charge of the enemy, were broken and put to flight with great slaughter, and left the victorious chief completely master of the field of battle.

Jaffier Cawn, collecting the scattered remains of one of the finest armies ever seen in Persia, hastily retreated to his own dominions, leaving his successful enemy not only in possession of independence, but in a situation, which enabled him to put in a claim to the crown of the empire.

good

good management of Captain Borlase, successfully cleared the harbour. Our satisfaction on this occasion was the greater, as the Shaik was punished for his intended extortion, by the loss of the customary profits on the pilotage of the harbour. Having a fair wind, we came, about one o'clock, P.M. in sight of the island of Karak. About five o'clock we anchored near it, and fired a gun, as a signal for a pilot: it is from this place that pilots are usually taken, to conduct vessels up the Euphrates. About half past six o'clock, one of them came on board; but his appearance did not promise any extraordinary qualifications as a pilot, for he was very old, and had bad eyes. At seven o'clock we weighed our anchor, and next morning,

February 16th, arrived off the mouth of the Euphrates. We came to an anchor in four fathom water: there was a considerable swell, and the vessel pitched, and rolled with great violence: the swell continued, with bad weather, all night. Our ship was tossed on the

waves in a manner we had never before experienced; we therefore thought it necessary to lower the yards, and take every other precaution to prevent parting from our anchor, or striking the ground, which the violence of the wind, and the shallowness of the water, (for we had only two fathom and a half at the ebb of the tide) gave us every reason to apprehend.

February 17th. The wind abating, we moved forwards for about two leagues, and then cast anchor. The entrance of this river is both dangerous and difficult, for the land on both sides is very low, and being without any object, which might serve as a land-mark, is not discovered but at a very short distance; while the want of buoys, to direct vessels into the proper channel, frequently occasions their attempting others not deep enough to be navigable. As soon as the error is discovered, they are obliged to put about, and try afresh for the true course.

February

February 18th. We weighed our anchor; and moved forwards, under a gentle breeze; the weather hazy, with some rain. About four o'clock, P.M. we struck ground in less than two fathom water; but in a quarter of an hour we got the ship off. We tacked frequently, in two and three fathom water, until eight o'clock, when we dropped the anchor. At the ebb of the tide, we again touched ground, but fortunately the weather was moderate.

February 19th. About nine o'clock, A.M. we spoke with a snow, commanded by a Captain Nimmo, and going from Buffora to Bengal. At the ebb of the tide we dropped the anchor. Opposite to us, on the Persian side of the river, we saw the ruins of a town, which was formerly fifteen miles in length: they are said to be the remains of old Buffora, or Balfora, and are about a mile and an half from the water.

This evening, the surgeon of the Drake and myself went to observe the nature of the country

country on the Persian side of the river; but we found the banks so muddy, that we were not able to walk with any satisfaction. I proposed returning immediately to the ship, but the surgeon having a desire to go a little further inland, to a place he pointed out, I consented to stay where I then was, till his return: I waited a considerable time; but observing that he had strayed to the ruins of old Balfora, which were far beyond the limits he had prescribed to himself, and which I thought might induce him to prolong his excursion, I got into the boat. I had no sooner pushed off, than the people on board, discovering the surgeon pursued by five or six Arabs, called on me to run to his assistance. I returned immediately, and, with a few sailors, arrived just in time to rescue him; for he was panting for breath, and almost exhausted with running. The Arabs no sooner observed us hastening to his relief, than they gave over the pursuit. It is difficult to say what treatment they intended him: his offence consisted in asking an old woman for a draught of water.

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This little anecdote will serve to give the reader an idea of the excessive delicacy of the Asiatics, with respect to their women. At the return of the tide we weighed our anchor; and about eleven o'clock, P.M. the ship was again aground, on the Arabian side of the river.

February 20th. We endeavoured to get the ship afloat, but without success, for she had been driven into the mud with considerable force. In the evening, a party of us took a walk on the Arabian side of the river; but, warned by the adventure of the surgeon, we carried our arms in our hands. We discovered nothing but a boundless, naked plain; except that, on the immediate banks of the river, there are numerous palm trees, under whose shade the sheep find here and there a blade of grass.

February 22d. At about one o'clock this morning, after reiterated efforts, the vessel was warped off the shore; and about twelve
o'clock

o'clock ~~at~~ noon we weighed our anchor, and in about two hours struck the ground; but we got her off again in a short time.

February 23d. We reached Buffora, and went ashore. Mr. Manesty, the Resident, had dispatched horses to carry us to his house; where, during our stay at this place, we were entertained with the greatest kindness and hospitality. This gentleman fills the office of resident with great ability, and is as much beloved and respected by the Arabs, as by the Europeans, who have the pleasure of knowing him.

Buffora is a large town, on the western banks of the Euphrates; meanly and irregularly built. The walls of the houses are, generally, constructed of mud, and a few bricks baked in the sun; and the roofs made by splitting a palm tree, and laying the pieces across, from wall to wall: these are covered with earth, which an heavy fall of rain would entirely wash away. The surrounding country

try presents a most uncomfortable prospect: a plain, perfectly flat, extends to the utmost bounds of the horizon; without a tree, a shrub, or the smallest appearance of verdure to relieve the eye, tired with the sad uniformity of the dreary scene. This inhospitable and extensive tract, is called the desert; which, however, on other sides, exhibits a more varied appearance. The commerce of Buffora is not near so great as it has been; but it is still the principal mart of these countries, and carries on a considerable trade. The governor is a Turk, and a few Turkish and Armenian families are established here; but the bulk of the people are Arabs. Buffora was taken, in the year 1787, by Shaik Ithooiny, a powerful Arab Chief, whose enterprize was so well concerted, that the garrison was surprized, and surrendered the town without any resistance. It is worthy of remark, that none of the inhabitants suffered any injury in their persons or goods, neither did the Shaik exact any contributions from them; but in half an hour after his troops had taken possession of the

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the place, every thing went on with the same regularity as if no extraordinary event had happened. These circumstances, which would do honour to more polished and enlightened nations, induce us to suppose, that the Arabs, notwithstanding their general character for rapine, are influenced by some salutary laws, or maxims; at least, they strongly mark that obedience to the Chief, which is the soul of military discipline. The Shaik is a middle-aged man, of great courage and enterprize; which, joined to a vigorous understanding, and a just and moderate exercise of the sovereign power, have rendered him dear to his tribe, and respected by all men. He kept possession of Buffora for three months, when hearing that the Bashaw of Bagdad, to whom he is tributary, was on the march with six thousand men to attack him, he set out, with his whole force, to oppose his enemy on the banks of the Euphrates. The two armies met at some distance from Buffora, and came to action. The fortune of the day was some time doubtful, but was at last decided in favour of
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the Turks: the Arabs were totally routed; the unfortunate Shaik himself with difficulty escaping, attended by a few followers, who were all that remained to him from the slaughter of the day. He is now soliciting his pardon from the Bashaw, who has refused it, and appointed another Shaik in his room. Ithooiny, however, at the head of a numerous tribe, devoted to his service from personal attachment, is likely to prove a troublesome enemy, unless he is restored by the Bashaw to his former dignity:

We now deliberated on the route we should take; whether we should go directly across the great desert to Aleppo; or, proceeding up the Euphrates as far as Hilla, pass by Bagdad, where we might hire Tatars, or Couriers, to conduct us through Mosul, Diarbekir, and Natolia, to Constantinople. The late contest between Shaik Ithooiny and the Bashaw of Bagdad, made us doubt the security of the passage up the Euphrates, till we were informed, from good authority, that the country was in a state of the most perfect tranquility.

tranquility. The route over the great desert is well known, and is of the most tiresome uniformity; while that by Bagdad promises a succession of new and various objects, that cannot fail of amusing and instructing the curious traveller. These considerations having determined our choice in favour of the Bagdad road, we immediately made the necessary preparations for our departure. A boat properly fitted up, and manned by nine Arabs, was hired to convey us to Hilla. The Arabs, in parties of three men, who are regularly relieved by others, draw this boat up the river. Each man has a sort of harness on his breast, by which he pulls a rope that is fastened to the top of the mast, while a man in the stern guides the boat, and keeps it at a proper distance from the bank.

March 1st. We dined with Mr. Manesty, at his country house, which is close to the river, about two miles above Buffora, where our Arab trackers were ordered to attend us. About four o'clock we stepped into our boat,
and

and pushed off with the wind and tide in our favour. Meer Joad, the Turk, who had been our fellow-passenger in the Drake, continued to accompany us, on his way to Bagdad. He was a valuable addition to our little party, as he interpreted for us through Major Macleod, who conversed with him in the Hindostani language.

March 2d. About eight o'clock this morning we arrived at Corny, which is seated at the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates. This is supposed, by some learned men, to have been the site of the garden of Eden: it has, however, no pretensions to this honour, from its present appearance, which is totally unlike what we should fancy of a terrestrial paradise.

Corny is a wretched town, furrounded by a ruinous mud wall, which is washed on the East by the Tigris, and on the West by the Euphrates. The Tigris is called by the Arabs, SHAT FRATE, and is said by them to be the most considerable river of the two; but the Eu-

phrates, called SHAT IMRAUDE, is at this place the broadest. The body of water formed by the confluence of the two rivers, at Corny, and which flows into the Persian gulph, is known to the people of these countries by the name of Shat ul Arab*; i. e. the river of the Arabs.

We breakfasted on the eastern banks of the Euphrates, near Corny; and in the evening discovered, on the same side of the river, several Arab encampments.

Having this day occasion for some clean linnen, I had the mortification to find that my trunk was inaccessible. We had brought with us a large quantity of baggage, which had been thrown into the boat without order or arrangement, and was wedged in by a heavy cargo of dates, surreptitiously taken on board by our boatmen; so that we were not only

* The European geographers call this body of water EUPHRATES; considering it only as a continuation of the river of that name.

deprived of the articles of convenience and luxury we had so plentifully provided, but even unable to reach those which were essentially necessary to our health and comfort, in the performance of so long a journey: this, I fear, is not the last occasion we shall find of regretting that we have encumbered ourselves with so many superfluities. Much baggage is a millstone about the neck of a traveller, in these countries; it impedes his progress, increases his expence, and, by the temptation it presents to the fraudulent and rapacious, greatly adds to the risk of his journey.

Observing that the Arabs gazed at us with particular attention, as we passed them on the river, we concluded that the Turkish dresses we had bought at Buffora were not a sufficient disguise, without shaving off the hair from about our foreheads and temples. Major Macleod, and myself, had suffered our whiskers to grow for some time past, and they were now of a sufficient length; but, in spite of this and every other precaution, we were frequently discovered to be foreigners.

Meer Joad having informed us that there were thieves in this part of the river, we cleaned and loaded our arms: we were each of us provided with a sword, a brace of pistols, and a fusil. Meer Joad had bought, at Bombay, a gun of seven barrels; and so armed, he seemed to think himself invincible.

March 3d. We passed, this day, several Arab encampments; and at night lay opposite to one commanded by Shaik Hamood, nephew to the Chief appointed by the Bashaw of Bagdad to succeed Ithooiny. As soon as we were moored, Meer Joad, and his Caffre servant, went ashore to visit the Shaik, with whom they supped, in the Arabian fashion; that is, all the persons present helped themselves, with their hands, out of the same dish, not observing any distinction, or respect of persons. Shaik Hamood was very desirous that we also should sup with him; but Meer Joad, thinking that we might find it difficult to adapt ourselves to Arabian manners, made our apology. This Chief gave us letters, which were to serve as passports up the river.

March

March 4th. We continued tracking up the river; and as we had now lost the assistance of the tide, and the wind was against us, our progress depended entirely on the exertions of our boatmen, which were neither frequent nor powerful.

We passed this morning the ground on which the Bashaw of Bagdad defeated Shaik Ithooiny: it bore the marks of having been the scene of great slaughter; for it was abundantly strewn with the bones of men and horses.

We anchored at night near a village where a toll is paid: some Arabs having attempted to look into our boat, as we passed them, were spoken to by Meer Joad in terms of great haughtiness and asperity; which they retorted with so much heat, as to make me apprehensive of the most serious consequences.

March 5th. Early this morning I was disturbed out of my sleep by the clamours and abusive language of Meer Joad and a custom-

house officer. Meer Joad, having exhausted all his terms of reproach, threw a large billet of wood at his antagonist, and was proceeding to attack him with fire arms; however, by our interference, further violence was prevented, and the officer withdrew with his boat. Our Turk soon after grew calm, but appeared much mortified; as this dispute tended to shew, that he was a man of less consequence, than he had endeavoured to appear to us during the journey. We now heartily wished he had not accompanied us, lest the violence of his temper should be productive of some mischief; he had, however, betrayed no symptom of this outrageous disposition on board the Drake.

About twelve o'clock we passed Arja, a village on the western bank of the river, where a custom-house officer required a sight of our passes, and a bucksheesh, or present of one piastre,

About two o'clock a boat came along-side of us, carrying five or six men, whom Meer Joad

Joad declared to be thieves: their appearance, indeed, authorised some suspicion. Very high words passed between these supposed depredators and Meer Joad; but the Turk seizing his pistols, as if to attack them, they sheered off without molesting us. Meer Joad's conduct was so intemperate, that I dreaded the consequences of his violence, more than any hostile attempt from the Arabs. He would frequently alarm us with accounts of robbers, which he would presently afterwards contradict; and, from the general irregularity of his conversation and behaviour, gave us reason to suppose that his intellects were deranged, by his anxiety respecting the fate that awaited him at Bagdad.

This night we stopped at about seven miles from Arja, at a little village on the eastern side of the river, where we found four loaded boats, bound from Buffora to Hilla. Here Meer Joad went ashore, and returning soon after, assured us, that the greatest danger of the journey lay between this place and Semeva; and submitted to our consideration, whe-

ther it would not be better to keep company with the boats, though they might delay us two or three days, than venture on alone. On weighing the danger with the delay, we determined upon accompanying the boats one day, and pushing on the next without them. Meer Joad having represented to us, that it would be more safe to anchor in the middle of the river at night, than to be moored close to the shore, and that an anchor might be purchased for a piastre, we dispatched some of our boatmen to procure one; but instead of some instrument of iron, which we expected, they brought back a large stone: with this they pretended the boat was to be anchored; however, they still fastened it at night close to the shore.

March 6th. We were surprized about three o'clock this morning by a great noise among our boat people, who imagined they saw robbers approaching to attack us; but notwithstanding the other boats appeared under equal apprehensions, it proved a false alarm. We did not set out to day till ten o'clock, through the

the delays of the boatmen; who, though they urged some frivolous reason for our detention, were, in fact, negotiating the sale of their dates.

Notwithstanding we advanced but slowly this day, in order to keep company with the boats, we were moored at night half a mile ahead of them; where, in case of an attack, they could have rendered us but little assistance. We now began to think that the dangers, with which Meer Joad and the Arab boatmen had alarmed us, were only deceptions, calculated to answer some private purposes. Left our baggage should tempt them to form designs of a black nature, we thought it expedient to promise Meer Joad the whole of it, on our safe arrival at Hilla, with the exception only of some necessary linnen.

March 7th. We tracked all day until sunset, when we anchored in the middle of the river.

We had for some time thought it necessary to keep watch: to night it was my turn; when about twelve o'clock hearing the report of fire arms, I turned out all hands. Four boats presently passed us, one of which cried out,

FRINGUIS

FRINGUIS [an appellation given to all Europeans by the Eastern nations]: these we found were conducting Colonel Hartley, who had been expected for some time at Buffora, from Aleppo, on his return to Bombay.

March 8th. We had a fair breeze all day, and hoisted our sail. About four o'clock in the afternoon we passed a village, called Ul Grehim, and saw four branches of the Euphrates, which are said to communicate with the Tigris.*

Meer Joad informed us, that he had received intelligence from some boatmen, that had passed us, that the plague was at Semeva, and all the way up the river as far as Hilla. This was another fabricated story; though we did not know but that it was true, till we arrived at Semeva the next evening.

March 9th. Meer Joad and our Arabs proposed that we should land at Semeva, and take horses there to carry us to Hilla, in or-

* This report does not appear to be well founded, as the beds of all these branches are very narrow; three of them were dry at this time, and the fourth appeared to be that branch of the *Euphrates* which is seen between Semeva and Sebay.

der, as they pretended, to avoid the plague. We told them, that as Semeva was but half way to Hilla, if they would return us half the money we had paid them, we should have no objection to do as they proposed; otherwise we insisted on their proceeding with us. If they had succeeded in persuading us to leave the boat, their scheme was to sell their cargo at Semeva, and return to Bussora without farther trouble. Half an hour after their application to us, they informed us, that some boatmen had assured them the plague was not at Semeva, and that therefore it was better for us to continue in the boat. We reached Semeva at six o'clock this evening, and were much importuned by the custom-house officers for a present: these were set on by our boatmen, who were in hopes, under cover of the present they expected we would have made to the officers, to pass their cargo of dates custom free; but we refused submitting to this gross imposition, and only paid seven or eight piastras for some goods, which belonged to the Marcar, an Armenian merchant, who is agent for the English at Bagdad,

March

March 10th. We set out from Semeva at seven o'clock in the morning; and at one in the afternoon passed, on our right, a branch of the Euphrates, which flows out of the river from hence, and returns to it at Ul Grehim. About a mile further we saw a river as broad as the Euphrates, and which runs into it from the West. The water of the Euphrates easily distinguishes itself from all other rivers; for though it is muddy while flowing, yet, after having stood a few minutes in any vessel, its impurities sink to the bottom, and it becomes the finest, and most palatable I ever drank: small turtles are found in it; but the Arabs, through some religious prejudice, make no use of them. The country from Arja to Semeva is covered with thicker, and is a perfect wilderness. Above Semeva the country is low and flat, of a rich soil, and pretty well cultivated; however, not a tree, or a village, is to be seen as far as the eye can reach; and only at considerable distances, a few miserable tents. Semeva itself is a town of a wretched appearance; but persons of very large property are said to be among its inhabitants.

We

We this day saw sheep, horses, and other kinds of cattle grazing, which is no usual sight on the banks of the Euphrates.

At night we anchored at Sebay, a large straggling town, said to contain near one hundred thousand inhabitants, whose Chief is a Shaik Thamar: the huts of which it is composed, are made of wattles and mats, very rudely put together. The banks of the river at this place are so low, that the neighbouring country must be frequently under water.

March 11th. We left Sebay at about six o'clock in the morning, accompanied by a boat with five men, whom Meer Joad had hired as guides to conduct us from this district into the next; but though he had taken them under the pretence that they were necessary to our security, their appearance was such as excited in us no small anxiety. One of them was what the Turks call an Abyssinian, that is, the son of an Arab or Turk by a Caffre woman. Very marvellous stories are told of the courage and strength of this breed:
they

they are frequently employed on desperate services, and are ready to massacre any one at the command of their master. A circumstance, that served to encrease our solicitude, was the misfortune of Mr. Hare, a gentleman from Bengal, who was robbed and murdered some years ago, by the Arabs, near this place. We put ourselves on our guard; and to deter them from attempting similar violence, we shewed them our loaded pistols and other arms, which we kept within our reach, that, in case of an attack, we might make them pay a dear price for our lives. As these people are said never to break bread with those against whom they have any evil design, I presented some biscuit to the Abyssinian, which, I was happy to see, he readily accepted. Our guides left us very amicably in the evening, near Lemloon; but we were not without suspicion, that they would pay us a visit in the night. At parting, I gave the Abyssinian a new Turkish gown; and to another of the party, who was fond of liquor, two quart bottles of cherry brandy, which he immediately swallowed with great avidity.

We

We anchored at Lemloen, where the Major, Lieutenant Morris, and myself, thought it prudent to keep watch all night.

March 12th. This night we anchored near an island formed by the river: the country on both sides of us had a wild and desert appearance, and was covered with thicker.

We found here two boats, which belonged to some Arabs, with whom Meer Joad entered into an amicable conversation. We were all invited to accompany them on shore, where we treated them with pipes and coffee: as they were armed with swords, we judged it prudent to wear ours, and to keep at a moderate distance from them.

About nine o'clock at night we were alarmed by a boat coming swiftly along-side of us; and, before we had time to seize our arms, one or two men had jumped on board: these Meer Joad soon discovered to be his acquaintance, who had left Bussora five days after us. The whole party, consisting of seven Turks,
were

were invited to partake of coffee and tobacco; and having staid with us an hour, set off again towards Hilla.

March 13th. We departed this morning at day light, and at eleven o'clock in the forenoon reached Devanee, a small village on the eastern side of the Euphrates. The part of the country we saw in this day's course, was on both sides of the river a complete thicket. At Devanee our boatmen sold their dates at about thirty per cent. profit; but before they could agree respecting the division of their gains, they quarrelled, fought, and tumbled each other into the water. In the evening we anchored on the western side of the river, in order to avoid the offensive smell of a great number of dead bodies, which lay unburied, and exposed, on the eastern side, close to the town. In about half an hour after we had come to our moorings, we received a visit from the Governor and his officers: their behaviour was distant and haughty, and shewed that we were much more indebted to their
curiosity

curiosity than their politeness for the honour they did us: we all sat down on the banks of the river, and Meer Joad presented them with pipes and coffee, the chief marks of civility shewn to visitors in these countries: the coffee is given in very small cups, without sugar, or any other addition. Many of the Governor's train were afflicted with the venereal disease; and as the Turks have a high opinion of European physicians, they urged me to feel their pulses, and give them medicines. In order to rid myself of their importunities, I supplied them with some trifling remedies; though an anecdote, I had formerly heard, made me extremely cautious in that article. Some years ago a Christian Missionary, who practised physic at Mosul, administered medicines to the Governor, who was ill of a fever, and who, in spite of all the assistance that could be given him, in a short time sunk under the violence of the disease. The Padre presently followed him, for he was cruelly put to death by the Turks, upon suspicion

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that

that his remedies might either have occasioned, or accelerated their Bashaw's dissolution.

March 14th. We set off from Devanee, but did not advance more than twelve miles; owing to the banks of the river being covered with thicket, and the boat frequently touching ground. About two o'clock this day we descried seven or eight horsemen ashore; and soon afterward we observed a boat, which hid itself in a small bay. Meer Joad was alarmed, as usual, and directed us to stand to our arms till we had passed them; which we did soon after, without molestation. We began now to be tired of the frequency of these pretended dangers, which appeared to have no foundation but in Meer Joad's disordered imagination: in fact, we had more to apprehend from his rashness and imprudence, than from any other evil whatsoever; however, as we were unable to converse with the Arabs, we were necessarily obliged to submit ourselves to his guidance. We anchored at night near thickets, which abounded in jackalls, of a

larger size than those of India. We could see no village, but heard at a distance the noise of people, whom we took to be shepherds. The days were now become intolerably hot, and the nights cold.

March 15th. We passed Khuscusea, a village on the eastern side of the river; and our boat having been perceived at some distance, the chief, with a company of eight men, crossed the river, near the place where we were tracking, and waited for us with their arms in their hands: however, as we were armed, and presented ourselves to them with some confidence, they contented themselves with saluting Meer Joad, and then retired, without making any demand. Had they not found us so well prepared for their reception, it was evidently their intention to have exacted a present for suffering our boat to pass. We had a fair wind to day, and set the sail till twelve o'clock at night.

March 16th. The wind continued fair, and at ten o'clock at night we reached Hilla, which is built on the site of ancient Babylon.

March 17th. We lodged the baggage in the caravanfary; and, agreeably to our promise, gave the whole of it to Meer Joad, except a little necessary linnen; for we were determined to rid ourselves of what we had found an intolerable incumbrance. In the evening we paid a visit to the Governor, who received us with civility, and treated us with pipes and coffee. We expected to have horses for our departure this evening, but Meer Joad assured us they could not be procured. The fact was, that though we had given up the property, we had not rid ourselves of the inconvenience of our baggage, with which we were again to be incumbered, on our route to Bagdad, where Meer Joad's family resided; and the impossibility of procuring horses to set out this day, was merely a pretence for waiting, till a sufficient number of beasts of burthen could be procured, to carry the valuable present we had made him.

March

March 18th. After a delay of two hours, spent in loading ten asses with the baggage, we set out about seven o'clock in the morning, and immediately crossed the Euphrates, over a bridge of boats. Our horses were miserably poor and weak: we made shift, however, to reach the first caravanfary about eleven o'clock. Meer Joad had prudently provided a good horse for himself, which he had kept out of sight till the rest of the party were mounted. After resting ourselves for two hours, we set out again; and at four o'clock in the evening arrived at another caravanfary. Soon after our arrival two horsemen came in, who, on being spoken to in an authoritative tone by Meer Joad, immediately departed. These, he informed us, were thieves, who came to see what travellers might be in the caravanfary. At seven o'clock we departed on fresh horses, very little superior to those we had quitted: we were, notwithstanding, required to pay five piaftres for the hire of them to Bagdad; though the fair price from Hilla thither is only two piaftres. We passed Scandera in the night, and at one o'clock in

the morning reached Beranofs. We unloaded the asses in the desert, at a short distance from the village, and then lay down on the ground to sleep till day-light. The earth in this part of the country is quite parched up; not a blade of grass is to be seen, and water is extremely scarce. In summer the heat of the day is excessive, and is succeeded by piercing cold at night; a contrast which is found to be highly injurious both to animal and vegetable life.

March 19th. We set out at seven o'clock in the morning, and at ten arrived at Azad; where we halted the whole day. We suffered some distress at this place, from the scarcity of water: the only supply we could have, was from a deep well, that did not afford above four gallons, which was very dirty, and of an unwholesome quality. In our road to day, we observed some ruins of ancient Ctesiphon, now called Tauk Kessera; but we were informed, they were not worth any particular attention.

March

March 20th. We left Azad about one o'clock in the morning, and crossing the Tigris over a bridge of boats, entered, at dawn of day, the city of Bagdad, in which we took up our quarters at the house of the Marcar, an Armenian merchant, who is agent for the English at this place. This was the period of Meer Joad's journey; but the shortness of our stay at Bagdad, prevented our being informed whether he succeeded in making his peace with the Bashaw. He was the son of a Georgian slave by a Turkish woman; and, having no patrimony but his sword, embarked at an early period of life in the profession of arms. The first military employment he obtained was under an independent Chief, in the country of Scind, from whose service he passed into that of a Prince, in Bengal, where he remained many years, and became acquainted with the famous Monsieur Chevalier, the French Governor of Chandarnagore. This gentleman being about to convey the large fortune he had amassed to Europe, overland, engaged Meer Joad to accompany him. Their

journey was full of hardship and danger; and in their passage over the desert, they were frequently attacked by numerous bodies of Arab plunderers, whom they repulsed with uncommon success. Monsieur Chevalier was so well satisfied with Meer Joad's courage and conduct on these difficult occasions, that, as soon as he arrived in France, he recommended him to the French ministry, and exerted his interest so effectually in his behalf, as to procure him the commission of a field officer in the Duke of Luxemburgh's legion. In the unsuccessful expedition against Jersey, he was wounded and taken prisoner. After a detention of five months in England, he was exchanged, and upon his return to France was honoured by the King with a gold medal, expressive of his gallant behaviour. The Luxemburgh legion being under orders for the island of Ceylon, whither Meer Joad had no inclination to go, he resigned his commission in the French army, and returned to his native city Bagdad. Here the fame of his service in Europe, and letters of recommendation from persons

persons of high consequence in France, procured him the appointment of Captain Bashaw of the Turkish fleet at Buffora, which he held till the capture of that place by Shaik Ithooiny. As his conduct on this occasion rendered him liable to suspicions of having a private understanding with the Arab Chief, he thought it prudent to take refuge at Bombay, till the first emotions of the anger the Bashaw might have conceived against him should have subsided. His whole behaviour, however, during his journey with us, was expressive of the most distressful anxiety respecting the reception he should meet with on his return. He was a lusty, personable man, about the age of forty: spoke the Turkish, Hindostani, Arabic, and French languages well, and some others imperfectly. He was evidently endowed with good natural abilities, but was totally illiterate; not even possessing the useful arts of reading and writing, of which he confessed and regretted his ignorance.

Bagdad is seated on the eastern banks of the Tigris, in Irac Arabi, opposite to the site of
ancient

ancient Seleucia. The houses are better built here, than in any other part of this extensive country I have seen; though they will not bear a comparison, either for elegance, neatness, or convenience, with those of Europe. The town exhibits, every where, an appearance of splendor and opulence, and is crowded with inhabitants. It was built in the year 763, by Almanzor, second Caliph of the Abbassides: in the thirteenth century it was taken by the Turks, by whom, and the Persians, it was held alternately, till the year 1638, when it was captured, for the last time, by the Turks, in whose possession it has remained ever since. It is surrounded by a wall four miles in circumference, but unequal to any defence against artillery. This is, in fact, the case with almost all the military works of the Turks and Persians: for these nations, from their ignorance of the proper management of cannon, hardly ever made use of them in their sieges; they would not, therefore, be at the expence and labour of constructing fortifications to resist a weapon of war, which, however

however formidable, was so rarely employed against them. However, the late introduction of Christian officers into the service of the Porte, may, among the Turks at least, produce a considerable improvement in their mode of fortifying. The Caliph Almanzor, on account of a sedition among the people of Hasemia, his capital, transferred the seat of empire to Bagdad; and, notwithstanding the popular tumults that agitated his whole reign, completed the erection of his new metropolis in less than six years. It takes its name from BAG, which signifies a garden, and DAD, the name of a dervise, or hermit, on the site of whose garden a part of the city was built. Some authors have called it New Babylon; probably because it was peopled by the inhabitants of Old Babylon, which was distant from it only one day's journey.

Bagdad is the seat of a Pacha, which extends from near Mosul to Bassora; and, lying at a distance from the capital of the empire, is post of great trust and importance. The sum

sum remitted by the Bashaw to Constantinople, is inconsiderable: the large proportion of its revenue that remains, is either expended in supporting the state of the Governor, or in maintaining a strong military force; which, at the same time that it keeps the frontier provinces to their allegiance, protects them from the invasion ~~of~~ a foreign enemy.

Two Tatars*, or couriers, were engaged for us here, by the Marcar. These people are persons of some consequence, and are employed in conveying public despatches from one Government to another: great confidence is placed in their fidelity, and they are frequently entrusted with packets of the highest value and importance. The terms agreed upon with

* The word TATAR signifies, in the Turkish language, a courier, or messenger, and in the pronunciation is accented on the last syllable: most authors, however, have corruptly written it TARTAR; which has induced uninformed persons to suppose, that the office of courier, in Turkey, was generally held by people of the Tartar nation.

our guides were, that they should conduct us to Constantinople for twelve hundred piaſtres, in which ſum the charge of proviſions, horſes, and every other incidental expence was to be included. Having lightened myſelf of all baggage, except ſuch neceſſaries as I could carry on my horſe, I expected to reach Conſtantinople in twenty, or twenty-five days. The computed diſtance from hence to that city, is fifteen hundred miles; but I think that number exceeds the truth; becauſe the tatars frequently perform the whole journey in twelve days, and we heard of one who executed it in eleven. As the Tatars ride very hard, and I had ſuffered much from a ſhort excursion on horſeback, at Buſſora, my companions recommended to my conſideration, whether it would not be better to ſtrike off from hence on camels, over the great deſert to Aleppo, than undertake ſo long and haſty a journey on horſeback; to which, from not being accuſtomed to riding, I might, on trial, find myſelf unequal. I had, however, predetermined to adopt that courſe, which would the ſoonest gratify

gratify the impatience I felt of seeing again my native country; and, in the hope that my resolution would bear me up under the fatigue and novelty of the situation, I prepared myself to accompany the Tatars. In order to avoid the insults of the Mahometans, we equipped ourselves in every respect like our conductors. My dress consisted of a shirt without a collar, a waistcoat, a loose blue coat, and a pair of wide trowsers, reaching to the calf of the leg, where they were gathered to fit close: I wore on my feet leather socks, which covered the ankles, and over them a pair of clumsy and large red boots. My head was covered by a thick yellow cap, without a flap, and bordered, for the depth of four inches, with sheep's skin; and, to complete me in my Turkish garb, a girdle or sash of cotton cloth was drawn round my waist, as tight as I could bear it; and though at first I found this part of my dress rather inconvenient, it afterwards proved of great service, in enabling me to support the violent motion and fatigue of the journey. I should add, that, like the Tatars,

I was

I was provided with a short whip, and a tobacco pipe carried in the boot.

We had expected to have set out two days after our arrival at Bagdad; but the Marcar urged, that one of the Tatars he had engaged was just returned from a long journey, and wished to have a few days repose; and that our pass was not yet made out. We began to fear that the Bashaw withheld it for the purpose of extorting a present from us; but, to our great satisfaction, we received it in the morning of the 24th.

March 24th. At twelve o'clock at noon we mounted our horses, and departed from Bagdad. Our party consisted of Major Macleod, Lieutenant Morris, Mahommed Aga, and Bekir Aga, the Tatars, Mahommed, their Turkish servant, Coja Bogos, an Armenian merchant from Constantinople, and myself. We now bid adieu to wine, brandy, and all other refreshments we had provided at Bombay, in the intention of passing the great desert; however, as I knew from experience,

in

in a variety of instances, the happy effects of tea, I reserved a small bag of it, with a little sugar; and, to be prepared for accidental sickness, I carried with me a few of the most necessary medicines. Soon after we had left Bagdad we overtook a Turk, leading four horses loaded with goods, who, we understood, was to accompany us to Constantinople. This circumstance explained the Marcar's delay in procuring the pass; for it is probable that we were detained only while the merchandise we then saw was getting ready. This addition to our little caravan destroyed the agreeable expectation we had formed of being at Constantinople in twenty or twenty-five days; in which time, if the traveller is unincumbered by merchandise or baggage, the journey may be very easily performed. We arrived in five hours at Yankja, the first post or Konac from Bagdad. After we had supped on some well-tasted mutton, dressed after the Eastern fashion with a great deal of butter, we were each of us provided, by the master of the Konac, with a mattress and pillow, on which we slept in the open air. The night was pleasant, and

free from damp: in this country they have very little rain; seldom above five or six showers in the whole year.

March 25th. We set out from Yankya about one o'clock in the morning; and having marched about four hours, by day-break arrived at a Konac, where we procured some warm milk, and rested ourselves for half an hour: we then moved on again for about two hours, and halted at a Konac till twelve o'clock. About four o'clock in the afternoon we reached Dely Abbas, another Konac on the side of a river, which flows into the Tigris, and which we crossed over a bridge. From the mouth of the Euphrates to this place, a length of country of near six hundred miles, I do not recollect to have seen the smallest hillock, or a single stone the native produce of the country.

March 26th. We set out at one o'clock in the morning, and after two hours march reached the Kuscadawire hills. As the pass here is of some danger, the Tatars kept the

party close together, till we had descended into the open country, which employed us for two hours. At day-break we crossed the river Shat Narin, which flows into the Tigris, but was now almost dry. At seven o'clock we arrived at Karatapa, a Konac, seated in a very poor country. We eat some pillaw here; and having procured fresh horses, which we had not been able to do at any of the former Konacs, on account of the large number we required, we set out, after two hours repose, for Kuffrie: this place we reached in three hours. Notwithstanding our road this day was both rugged and stony, our guides, without any consideration for the horses, led us on at a brisk gallop; seldom going at a less rate than eight miles an hour. After dining at Kuffrie, and procuring fresh horses, we set out for Toufcourmartee; and, keeping the hills about a mile on our right, arrived there at six o'clock in the evening: we went this day, by calculation, seventy-six miles. A very rough horse had fallen to my lot this stage, and upon dismounting him, I found myself so unwell, that I began to despair of
my

my ability to prosecute the journey; and during the whole of this night, notwithstanding I had refreshed myself with tea, and that my bed was soft and comfortable, I did not close my eyes in sleep. Mahommed Aga, and Coja Bogos, were likewise much indisposed.

March 27th. We set out with fresh horses from Toufcourmartee before day-break, and in three hours arrived at Taook. I had the good fortune to be mounted to day upon an Arab mare, which carried me so easily, that I recovered from the fatigue and jolting I had suffered the preceding evening. We had hitherto been tolerably well mounted; for the Arab horses, though not large, are possessed of great strength, hardiness, spirit, and agility: but we were informed that this was the last place, on the road to Constantinople, where we should find the true Arabian breed. As we approached the Konac, we crossed the bed of a pretty large river, then almost dry.

We set out again on fresh horses at one o'clock, in very hot weather: we crossed the

river mentioned above, four times, at the foot of some low hills, which are said to be much infested with thieves; in passing them, therefore, we pushed on at a brisk pace, keeping close together. At four o'clock in the afternoon we arrived at a Konac, called Tepellee, seated in a pleasant and cultivated country. As Mahommed Aga, our chief Tatar, was ill, as well as Coja Bogos, we halted here for the night. The master of the Konac shewed us great civility, and supplied us with plenty of excellent provisions.

March 28th. We left Tepellee at about six o'clock in the morning, and arrived at Kircook at ten. Our road lay over a fine, cultivated, and extensive plain, bounded on all sides by low hills.

Kircook, though the capital of Turkish Curdistan, is a very inconsiderable town: it was visited some years ago by the plague, which, from the number of tombs which are seen in the neighbourhood, must have made great ravages among the inhabitants. The
entire

entire province of Curdistan is divided between the Turkish and Persian Government. The people called Kurds, are supposed to be descendants from the ancient Parthians, and offer adoration to Sheitan, or Satan; whom, considering as the author of all evil, they worship to prevent his causing mischief to them, or to their cattle. A few of them join the Turks in occupying the towns; but the greater number prefer a wandering, pastoral life, like the Arabs, whom they likewise resemble in their disposition to rapine and violence.

March 29th. As the Konac at Kircook was tolerably comfortable and convenient, and our head Tatar was still very much indisposed, we did not proceed to day. I administered some medicine to the Tatar, which appeared to relieve him.

March 30th. We set out at eight o'clock in the morning on fresh horses, with a guard of twenty-five men, to protect us through some hills, which are near this place, and four

or five miles in breadth. Our escort accompanied us for about fifteen miles; but notwithstanding our conductors had shewn great apprehensions of an attack, and desired us to load our arms, we arrived at Alton Kuffrie, at three o'clock in the afternoon, without molestation. This is a town seated on an island, formed by the river of the same name, which is large and rapid. The bridge of communication from the island to the main land, is at night dangerous to travellers, being without parapet walls. Our road to day lay over a plain, ill cultivated, but not without verdure. We were joined this morning by a Turkish musician, who played on a kind of guittar, to which he sung in a barbarous, inharmonious manner. Our chief Tatar being still extremely unwell, I administered to him, without his knowledge, some tartar emetic, which carried off a great quantity of bile, and relieved him considerably. I recommended to him to spare himself a little, by not travelling so much by day, exposed to the scorching heat of the sun; but he replied, that this was unavoidable, on account of the great number of plunderers
that

that infest these roads, and generally attack by night.

March 31st. We left Alton Kuffrie, on fresh horses, at seven o'clock in the morning, accompanied by an escort of fifteen men. After crossing some low hills, which were partly cultivated, we came to a plain; and having passed a village on our right hand, called Khustapa, found ourselves, at half past three o'clock in the afternoon, at Evril, the ancient Arbela, near which Alexander overthrew Darius. This is now a small village, but defended by a fort, partly built of mud, and partly of bricks, like that of Kircook; it stands on an artificial hillock, or mound of earth. These eminences, which we had frequent occasion to observe in our journey, from the similarity of their shape, and from their always standing singly on the plains, are evidently the produce of human art and industry. It is not unreasonable to conjecture, that they were raised either to preserve the inhabitants from inundations, or to secure them against a surprize from their enemies. About four

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o'clock

o'clock we arrived at a small village, called Ankava, two or three miles from Evril.

April 1st. Having procured fresh horses, we set out from Ankava at six o'clock in the morning; and at five o'clock in the evening reached Karakooth. The first portion of country we passed in our way to this village, was fertile and level; afterwards we found the ground barren, and broken by irregular declivities. At eighteen miles distance from Ankava we passed through Killick, a village seated on the banks of the river Zarp, which flows into the Tigris. The inhabitants of this place are Manicheans, and such active and daring thieves, that we were obliged to be constantly on the watch, lest they should pilfer some of our baggage: we were, nevertheless, obliged to take three of them to relieve some of our escort from Ankava. We crossed the Zarp with the merchandise on a sort of platform, supported by sheep skins filled with air; our horses followed, being led by a boy, who swam on one of these inflated skins. On the banks of the river we were joined by nine
horsemen,

horsemen, who said they were travellers: they were well mounted, but raggedly clothed and accoutred; being in appearance, like our Killick guard, professional thieves. Six miles from the Zarp, and as many from Karakooah, we forded another river, called the Hafir. Mahommed Aga, our chief Tatar, was so ill that he could not accompany us to day, but staid behind at Ankava. The people of the Konac pleading poverty, in excuse for not supplying us with candles, and other necessaries it is customary for them to furnish, Bekir Aga, Mahommed his servant, and Bogos, tied three of them hand and foot, and beat them unmercifully with their whips. I was fearful that an act of so much violence would not only have been resented by the people of the Konac, but by the whole village; but, to my great surprize, no sooner were their cords loosened, than the very men who had been so roughly treated, brought us every thing we required. This circumstance sufficiently exemplifies the cruel tyranny of the Turks over the original inhabitants of the countries they have conquered.

April

April 2d. We left Karakooah at six o'clock in the morning, and arrived at Mosul about nine. Our Killick horsemen left us about half way, and after their departure we pushed on as fast as possible, in order to be out of their reach, in case they should return to rob us. The Curdistan mountains, capped with snow, were at a considerable distance on our right. Before we entered Mosul, we crossed the Tigris in a boat; the bridge of boats being now out of repair, and the chains, by which it is held at one end, broken.

Mosul is a large town, seated on the western bank of the Tigris; and, comparatively speaking, is the only place of a handsome appearance we have seen since we left Bagdad. It is defended by a wall, which surrounds it, and a citadel, both built of stone and plaister; but, from the bad quality of those materials, unequal to any defence against artillery.

The Armenians call it Nineveh; and pretend, that it is the Nineveh of the ancients: but some learned men contend, that this fa-

mous city was on the eastern bank of the Tigris, opposite to Mosul; and if their conjecture is well founded, not the smallest vestige of it now remains.

Coja Elias, an old Armenian merchant, on hearing that three English gentlemen were arrived, kindly invited us to his house, and sent horses for our conveyance. We found him in a habitation newly built, and, though not in the European taste, neat and commodious.

This city, from the badness of the materials, is in general very indifferently built; however, the door cases, in almost every house, are made of marble; and, as I conjecture, have been brought hither from the ruins of some other place, for they do not correspond with that meanness of materials and architecture which is seen in every other part of the building. In a walk I took about the town, I discovered, near the river, some ruins of walls and buildings, which seemed to shew that

Mosul

Mosul has heretofore seen days of greater prosperity.

April 3d. We halted at Mosul, waiting to be joined by the sick Tatar, whom we had left behind at Ankava. Major Macleod, who had caught a severe cold, was very unwell.

April 4th. The Tatar came up with us to day, but very ill of a fever.

April 5th. As the Major continued to be much indisposed, I began to fear, lest the damp of Coja Elias's new-built house, in which we were lodged, should increase his disorder; and therefore, after visiting Mahommed Aga, whom I found extremely ill, I urged our immediate departure to Bekir, representing to him, that if we were to wait for the recovery of his companion, we should be detained five or six weeks. In consequence of these remonstrances, a division of the money we had advanced was agreed upon, after some altercation between the Tatars, and Bekir promised to proceed with us next day.

March

April 6th. We took leave of our hospitable entertainer, Coja Elias ; and at twelve o'clock at noon, having procured fresh horses, and a most shabby-looking guard of fifty men, to protect us against the thieves that lurk on the road to Nisibin, we departed from Mosul. We immediately repassed the Tigris, and took a circuitous course, in order, as I suppose, to avoid the dangers of the direct road. The country we passed was broken by frequent ascents and descents ; and, though not so rich in soil, much resembled the ground between Hampstead and Highgate. The Curdistan mountains were on our right, and covered with snow. About five o'clock in the evening we arrived at a Konac, called Terstoff, where we halted this night. The master of the Konac, who was a Turk, gave us to understand that the Turks and English were friends, by placing his two fore fingers parallel to each other.

April 7th. At sun rise we left Terstoff, and continued marching till five o'clock in the afternoon, when we came to a Konac,
called

called Affee, which is seated under a range of hills, and is said to be inhabited by robbers. The greater part of our guard returned to Moful before we reached this place, leaving us with only twelve horsemen. In our road to day we kept close to the hills on our right; and on our left saw, at a great distance, the Sanjiac, or Sinjar mountains. The ground we passed to day, like that of yesterday, was irregular, and little cultivated, and the villages deserted. We saw many little encampments of the inhabitants, with their flocks and herds.

Major Macleod much indisposed with a violent cough.

April 8th. We left Affee at break of day, with our twelve Moful horsemen. After marching three miles, we turned suddenly towards the hills, which we crossed by a very rocky and rugged path. These hills produce little else than a few shrubs and bushes, of an insignificant size: on our descent from them, we met a small caravan of loaded mules, which,

which, from the appearance of our guard, hesitated to advance. Having gained the plain, which was little cultivated, we kept the range of hills on our left hand for about four miles, when we forded a large river, at a place where it divides itself into three branches, which unite again into one stream at a short distance. We then traversed a fertile level, bounded on our right and left by distant hills; and after crossing the bed of another river, which was now almost dry, at noon reached a village, where we halted for rest and refreshment. At a short distance from this village we found the Tigris, and continued our march along its banks for about ten miles; crossed over it by a bridge of boats, to a large fortified town in Mesopotamia, called Jesseera, or Geraza, which is the residence of a Beg. Jesseera seems to have been formerly a place of more consequence than it is at present; for many of the buildings shew the remains of excellent masonry, and there is an old bridge of stone over the Tigris, about a mile below the town. Some authors have described this town as built on an island formed by the Tigris; but that

that is not the case, for the river only runs on one side of it. The error may have arisen from the union of a number of small torrents, which, during heavy rains, form a considerable body of water, and after surrounding part of the town fall into the Tigris.

April 9th. We set out at sun rise, and immediately beyond the town crossed the bed of a river, now almost dry; we then took a rugged path for about a mile, till we reached a plain, covered with brown stones of the size of a man's head; the soil under them was rich and loamy, though little cultivated: in fact, I should not have thought the tillage of this land by the plough had been possible, till I saw it done; when I observed, that the stones lay so loosely on the surface of the ground, that they easily gave way to the plough share. About nine o'clock we halted near a deserted village, where the fineness of the grass afforded us an opportunity of refreshing our horses, who had fared very ill since they left Mosul. Here we discovered that a young Turk, whom

we

we had picked up at Kircook, had cut a hole through our leathern bag, and had opened one end of my bundle : he was detected by the drivers before he had time to plunder it. We could not help harbouring a suspicion that the Tatar was privy to this dishonest attempt, in hopes of sharing in the spoil ; for though he endeavoured to keep up appearances, by bestowing a few strokes with his whip on the delinquent, yet the next day, instead of driving him from the party, he indulged him with a horse, to accompany us. We were still attended by our Mosul guard, with the addition of an Arab guide from Jesseera. Our road this day lay over a plain, bounded on our right and left by distant hills, and of the richest soil, but totally uncultivated. We saw several small encampments and villages, whose appearance manifested the wretchedness and poverty of their inhabitants. Finding a little stream on our way, whose banks were covered with fine grass, we halted a second time to refresh our horses. As we had no provisions, and had not taken any food

since the preceding night, we felt here all the distress of hunger: we were, however, consoled by the reflection, that these unavoidable inconveniences of our journey would give a double relish to the return of our accustomed indulgences and ease. About four o'clock we came to a large Arab encampment, and halted at the tent of the Chief. At seven o'clock the Shaik, with his family, Bekir Aga, and two leading men of our guard, sat down to supper, without giving us any invitation to partake with them: after they had done, the remainder of the meat was offered to us; but, notwithstanding our long abstinence, we determined to shew a proper resentment of their affronting neglect, by refusing to eat what they had left. We were strongly solicited both by the Tatar and Bogos, who appeared much surprized that we should persevere in our refusal. With some difficulty we made Bekir Aga sensible of the cause of our displeasure; and desired to be furnished with milk and bread, for which we would pay: he assured us we should be immediately and plentifully

tifully supplied, but cautioned us to make no mention of the payment, lest the Arab Chief should take offence. Bread and milk was then brought to us in abundance, and we made a comfortable meal.

April 10th. We set out about three o'clock in the morning: it was very dark, and we pushed on as fast as we could, keeping close together while we passed several small encampments: some of our guard from Mosul continued to accompany us till day light. At seven o'clock we arrived at a village, part of which is seated on a small eminence, from whence we discovered Nisibin, distant about fifteen miles. The intermediate country affords a fine prospect; the soil is rich, and in a high state of cultivation. Having refreshed our horses for an hour, at the foot of the hill, we proceeded towards Nisibin, where we arrived about one o'clock. This town has lost all its ancient splendor, and is now in ruins: four or five miserable huts contain all its present inhabitants. A small,

neat mosque, of hewn stone, and a bridge of the same materials, over a neighbouring river, are the only remains of the many public edifices with which it was formerly adorned. We set out from Nisibin at nine o'clock at night, on fresh horses, with an escort of three horsemen. After travelling about twenty miles, our guard demanded a present, and upon the refusal of our Tatar to gratify them, very high words arose; but Bekir telling them ironically, that they might take the merchandise, and galloping on, they left us, and returned to Nisibin.

April 11th. About four o'clock in the morning we arrived at a poor village, called Arin, where we took a repast of fried eggs and bread, and refreshed ourselves by an hour's sleep. Having remounted our horses, we travelled till eight o'clock, by a rugged and steep road, when we reached a large town, called Mardin: this town is built near the summit of a rocky hill, in a situation so bold, that, at a distance, it appears as if ready to tumble down the declivity.

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The top of the hill seems strongly fortified by nature; but the artificial fortifications, like the rest of those we have seen in Turkey, appear to add but little to the strength of the place. Wine is made in the neighbourhood of Mardin, and it produces some large mulberry trees. An extensive and well cultivated plain, at the foot of the hill, affords a delightful prospect.

April 12th. At one o'clock in the morning we left Mardin, on fresh horses. Our road was rocky, and full of declivities, till about twelve o'clock, when we got into an open country, and saw, at a great distance before us, the city of Diarbekir. We observed a few miserable huts among the hills, the proprietors of which were striving to subsist on the cultivation of these barren, but secure, retreats; neglecting the fertile plains below them, which, though much more productive to the cultivator, are exposed to the exactions of tyranny, or the violence of rapine. It is rather remarkable, that our Tatar should not have taken an escort through these hills, which

seem well calculated for the retreat of a banditti. About four o'clock we came to the banks of the Tigris, where we defcried five armed men, who were declared to be thieves. The Tatar, having halted, loaded his fire arms, and placed one of my pistols, with his own, in his girdle, that the thieves might see he was completely armed. We then formed as compact a body as possible, and made up to them on a brisk trot; but as soon as they found that we were not only prepared for our defence, but superior to them in number, they gave up what appeared to have been their design, and suffered us to pass unmolested. We continued our course close to the Tigris; and, as the river was not fordable, we were obliged to follow a considerable bending of it to the westward, till about six o'clock in the evening, when we came to Diarbekir. We were this day seventeen hours on the same horse; and, notwithstanding we had eaten nothing since the preceding night, we reached Diarbekir in tolerable good spirits.

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On our arrival at the Konac, a German, and French Missionary, being informed that we were Franks, invited us in the most cordial manner to their house. As we had every reason to expect better treatment from them, than we should meet with at the Konac, and as the Major still continued much indisposed with his cough, we readily availed ourselves of their hospitable offer.

Diarbekir is the capital of a province of the same name, and is seated on the western banks of the Tigris. It is defended by walls of hewn stone, in the form of a square; and, though much larger, bears a great resemblance to Fort Square at Madras: however, the ramparts are so thin, that they do not afford room for the exercise of cannon. There is a bridge of hewn stone, and some other edifices of the same materials in the town, which are now decaying, and only serve to shew, that it has formerly been in a more prosperous condition. This city is rich and populous, and the seat of a Pachalic: its inhabitants consist of Turks, and Christians of

various sects; such as Armenians, Syrians, Greeks, and Nestorians; the two former have each of them a Bishop, and the Nestorians, or Chaldeans, united to the Church of Rome, a Patriarch, whom I visited, and who seems to deserve the high dignity with which he is invested. Such is the frequency and audacity of the robbers in this country, that the doors of all the houses in Diarbekir are kept shut and securely bolted, even in the day time.

The province of Diarbekir comprehends ancient Mesopotamia, or Diarbekir proper, on the West; Irac Arabi, formerly Chaldea, or Babylonia, on the South; and Curdistan, or Assyria, on the East.

The Marcar at Bagdad had given us a letter* to Coja Hanna, of this place, directing him, in case we should have need of money, to advance us the amount of three hundred piastras; and, as Bekir declared he could proceed no further without a supply of cash, I availed myself of our credit, to accommodate him
with

with a hundred piaftres, for which I gave an obligation to Coja Hanna, for the repayment of that fum to his agent in Constantinople. This Coja Hanna, who is an Armenian Doctor, is an elderly man, of a respectable appearance, and received me with great civility at his house.

April 13th. We rested at Diarbekir. Major Macleod continued very much indisposed with his cough. The Padres, at whose house we were, being physicians as well as divines, pronounced, rather rashly, that the Major's disorder was mortal. I cannot, however, sufficiently acknowledge the kind and hospitable treatment we received from our reverend entertainers, whose conversation was full of good sense, candour, and politeness.

April 14th. Fresh horses being procured, we left Diarbekir at ten o'clock in the morning; having the Turcomanian mountains, covered with snow, on our right. We proceeded over a rich, but uncultivated soil, for about
twenty-

twenty-eight miles; we then turned to the right, and having passed some low hills, descended at night fall into a valley; from hence we proceeded over several small eminences, and leaving the town of Argona on our right hand, we went out of the road for about two miles, till we came to a tent, in which we were to pass the night: this was so small, that it hardly afforded us shelter; and, as my covering was insufficient, and the coldness of the weather excessive, I was completely chilled, and unable to sleep. In order to warm myself by exercise, I arose at a very early hour in the morning, and walked about. I discovered that we were among hills, the tops of which were sprinkled with snow; and saw, for the first time in many years, a pool of water skinned over with ice. Argona, seated on the declivity of a steep hill, appeared distant about two miles: we were informed that the neighbourhood of this town produced wine, but that it was new and weak; we therefore did not think a supply of it worth the trouble of going out of our road. During the preceding day's journey, we had not been without apprehensions

apprehensions of an attack from the numerous robbers who infest this country, between Diarbekir and Argena. As they generally go in large parties, our kind hosts of Diarbekir cautioned us to beware of offering any resistance; because, in case we should not succeed in it, and they should overcome us, we should find no mercy at their hands: but the awkwardness and weight of our dresses rendered us so unfit for any personal exertion, that this caution was almost superfluous; but the custom of dress is not the only one which is inconvenient to travellers in this country; that of riding with short stirrups, and with the girths of the saddle loose, gives them no less uneasiness: and so obstinately, and unreasonably attached are the people to their own manner of riding, that, after you have lengthened your stirrups, and shortened your saddle girths, they will provokingly bring them back to their own standard.

April 15th. We set out about seven o'clock in the morning, and returned towards Argena,
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till we got into the road. Our way for eighteen miles lay over mountains, which succeeded each other without the intervention of the smallest valley; for as soon as we had descended one, we found ourselves at the foot of another. At twelve o'clock we arrived at Medan, or Argena Medan, where we halted half an hour.

Medan is a large smelting town, seated on declivities, near the foot of lofty mountains, with which it is surrounded on all sides: these mountains form continued chains, as far as the eye can reach, and bear the appearance of being rich in mineral productions; the soil is quite barren, producing nothing but a few stunted and deformed shrubs. The metals found in the mines of this place, are silver and iron: the latter, extracted from its ore, I saw in great abundance. Having left Argena Medan, we successively ascended, descended, and skirted very high mountains, until six o'clock; we then came down into a fine, cultivated valley, about three miles broad, having
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ing a river on our right, which I take to be the Tigris: turning a little to the left, we travelled under the hills till eight o'clock in the evening, when we arrived at a village, where we passed the night. This country is called Quenk. *

April 16th. We set out at about six o'clock in the morning, and crossing the valley obliquely, after riding four miles, passed a large village on our left, at the foot of a low hill; beyond this hill we found another valley, and about ten o'clock arrived at a large town, called Karpoot, which is situated on a rocky hill: this place was almost deserted, and the grass was growing in some of the streets. The garrison was in a state of great tumult and confusion; for the soldiers, divided into parties, were firing at each other. As I was as yet ignorant of this, my curiosity was excited by the report of the fire arms; and, without considering the danger to which I was exposing myself, I went out on the top of the Konac, to discover what was the matter.

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I was, however, immediately called back* by the Tatar, who reprimanded me sharply for my imprudence. From Karpoot we could see four or five large villages below us, and the tops of the distant mountains covered with snow: we were obliged to halt for want of horses to proceed.

April 17th. We waited under great anxiety to remove from this turbulent place till eleven o'clock, without being able to procure a sufficient number of horses; I therefore closed with a proposition made to me by the Tatar, that I should ride a mule. We mounted immediately, congratulating ourselves with escaping unmolested, amidst such violence and licentiousness.

At nine o'clock at night we reached Gaban Medan, seated on the banks of the Euphrates: it is a smelting town, and surrounded by mountains, like Argena Medan, which it resembles in many other respects.

For

For about seven miles before our arrival at Gaban Medan, the road was really dreadful: it was frequently a very rugged, narrow path, on the edge of tremendous precipices; and though I trusted much to the sagacity of my mule, the danger appeared so imminent, that I frequently dismounted. After we had got over the worst passes, the Turkish servant's horse fell, as did Mr. Morris's; but, fortunately, without injury to their riders.

April 18th. We did not set out till eleven o'clock this morning, having been detained by unsuccessful endeavours to procure fresh horses; we therefore pushed on with those we had taken from Karpoot. At a short distance from Gaban Medan we crossed the Euphrates in a boat: we were here eleven hundred miles from its mouth, and found the stream very rapid. Having proceeded over a barren country, in which we observed a few flocks of sheep, and small encampments, at nine o'clock at night we reached a poor village, called Cherin.

April

April 19th. We left Cherin at six o'clock in the morning; and, after travelling about five miles, arrived at a village, where we sat down to breakfast on the banks of a rivulet. A man, who was dispatched hither before us, had procured fresh horses and mules: that which I rode was neither so large, nor so tractable, as the one I had from Karpoot. After travelling all day, we arrived at eight o'clock in the evening, hungry and tired, at Hassan Chillibee, which, to our great mortification, we found deserted by the inhabitants, who were encamped at the distance of five miles further. By the advice of some people, who came with us to take care of the mules, we set off in quest of the encampment; but, as the night was very dark, we lost our road. After wandering a considerable time in a wild and mountainous country, with much danger and fatigue, we at last fortunately straggled on the top of a village, where we saw light, and heard the barking of dogs: some people came out to us, who sent an old woman to put us into the road. This village, as far as the darkness of the night would allow me to observe,

serve, appeared to consist of five or six excavations of the ground, the apertures of which were covered with pieces of timber. We soon discovered lights at the distance of two miles before us, which proved to be the encampment we were in search of. For want of mattresses, Lieutenant Morris and myself were obliged to pass the night on the cold, damp ground.

April 20th. About eleven o'clock in the forenoon we set out on fresh horses, and at three in the afternoon arrived at Hadgee Khan. Here we found a large building of hewn stone, which served the purposes of a stable: it appeared to be of some antiquity, and to have been originally intended for a better use. Hadgee Khan is a large village, but the people are poor, and much addicted to thieving; the neighbouring country is barren, and uninhabited. In the night two men, concluding that we were all asleep, entered our room; one of them held a candle, while the other examined what they could conveniently purloin: observing Bogos's breeches,

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they emptied the pockets of about the value of sixpence, and then retired. As their booty was so inconsiderable, I did not think it worth while to give the alarm.

April 21st. We left Hadgee Khan at six o'clock this morning, with fresh horses; and, as the road was infested with robbers, we took a guard with us of ten horsemen, who accompanied us half way to Delectetas, where we arrived at two o'clock in the afternoon: we traversed this day a barren, uninhabited country, in very cold, fleeting weather. On our arrival a Tatar, whom we found there, Bekir Aga, and Bogos, took possession of the fire side, in such a manner as to exclude us all day from deriving the least comfort from it. Neither wine nor spirits were to be procured, and we could not even obtain the indulgence of a little hot water to make tea. To add to our discomfort, we had been wet through; and as our linnen had been put into one of the large bags, which the Tatar would not suffer us to open, we were obliged to pass the night in our damp clothes. I found myself so cold on my
mattress,

mattress, for want of being properly covered, that I thought it better to lie on the bare ground, and make use of my mattress as a covering; by these means I enjoyed a tolerable degree of warmth till the middle of the night, when, these brutes being fast asleep, I got up, and dried myself by the fire. Lieutenant Morris suffered much this night, and caught a very severe cold.

Delectetas is situated in a barren, desert country, in the midst of mountains, on which we observed a few fir trees.

April 22d. We left Delectetas at six o'clock in the morning, with a guard of six horsemen, who accompanied us a great part of the day. We galloped very hard for a considerable number of miles, till one of the packhorses got into a slough, where we were detained above an hour. We reached Sivas about two o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Morris complained of being very feverish, and unwell.

Sivas is the capital of a Pashalic, and a very considerable town: it is seated in a valley, about a mile to the westward of a large river, which flows to the southward, and over which there are two stone bridges, at the distance of a couple of miles from each other.

The country we passed to day was poorly cultivated, and almost barren; one district alone wore a better appearance. We set out again on excellent horses, at five o'clock in the evening, in company with many Tatars, and other travellers, who were going part of our way. We ascended gradually some very high ground, till we reached a plain; where the night came on very dark. It was with the utmost difficulty that we kept our party together, being frequently confounded with the other travellers that had set out with us from Sivas: however they soon left us, taking the route of the different places to which they were destined. Our Tatar having lagged behind, we made a halt, to give him time to join us, and to wait for the rising of the moon. As soon as the Tatar had come up, he pushed on at a brisk gallop; and, though the night was

was so dark we could not see the road, and did not know where every step might throw us, we followed him closely, committing ourselves entirely to the strength and sagacity of our horses. The people of these countries always ride with a loose rein; and when I attempted to keep a tight hand upon my horse, I always found him restless and uneasy. Bogos having slackened his pace, in order to wait for one of the packhorses that was behind, Bekir rode up to him, and whipped him severely on the head and shoulders: this harsh treatment was received with perfect submission. As Bogos had paid, as well as ourselves, for his journey, I began to have apprehensions that the Tatar might some day try how far we should be passive under similar ill usage: we were, however, fully prepared to resist any insult of this kind. Lieutenant Morris kept up exceedingly well this day, considering how much he was indisposed.

April-23d. About one o'clock this morning we arrived at Karkoon; and, after a few hours sleep, set out again with the same horses, and at two o'clock in the afternoon reached

Tocat. This is a large town, surrounded by hills in the form of an amphitheatre: it is defended by an old castle, which, as well as the houses, and every other building, is tumbling to ruins. Tocat is the residence of a Bashaw, and is celebrated for its excellent wines.

April 24th. We halted at Tocat, for want of horses to proceed. Lieutenant Morris continued very unwell.

April 25th. The Tatar, Bogos, and the Turkish servant, equipped themselves with swords and pistols, and desired the Major and myself to accompany them; but as we did not approve of their design, which we conjectured was to press horses, we feigned sickness, in excuse for our refusal. They went out without us, and presently returned with several horses, which they saddled. Soon afterward we saw six men enter the Konac, who taking the saddles from the horses, threw them on the ground, with expressions of great indignation and contempt: our Tatar observed them, without daring to offer any opposition. At noon we procured fresh horses, which the
Tatar

Tatar paid for, and set out in company with two Turks. Having crossed a river near Tocat, over a stone bridge, we arrived at six o'clock in the evening at Affin, a small village. We lodged this night in a stable; a small part of which was separated from the stalls of the cattle by a mud wall, about two feet high. Lieutenant Morris's indisposition appeared aggravated by the fatigue of the journey.

April 26th. At six o'clock in the morning we left Affin; and after following the course of the river we crossed yesterday, for a considerable distance, came to the bed of another, which was now almost dry. Here we observed the remains of a bridge, and a few deserted huts, the appearance of which sufficiently manifested the wretchedness of those who had inhabited them. We passed, near this, a small detachment of soldiers from Tocat, on their route to join the army at Constantinople: the Bashaw was on the march before them, at the head of a body of cavalry. This circumstance had occasioned the difficulty we found yesterday in

procuring horses. In the evening we reached Amasia, in rainy, disagreeable weather. Mr. Morris was in such pain, from an inflammation in his ankle, that he was hardly able to keep his seat on horseback.

Amasia is a large town, on the banks of the river Kafalmack, which runs through it: a great number of mulberry trees are produced in its neighbourhood, but the country in general is of a barren soil. This place is remarkable for having given birth to Strabo, the celebrated geographer, and for having been the seat of the ancient Amazons.

April 27th. Having procured fresh horses, we left Amasia at eight o'clock in the morning, and crossing the river Kafalmack, over a stone bridge, came to the foot of a hill: having passed this, we traversed a fine cultivated valley, and reached the large town of Marfiwan, at two o'clock in the afternoon. Lieutenant Morris was so ill with an inflammation of his ankle and foot, together with rheumatic pains in his arms, that he could not bear his horse to trot. The Tatar, in order to urge him to
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a quick pace, told him there were thieves on the road, and was proceeding to whip his horse; but, observing Mr. Morris's indignation at such brutality, he thought proper to desist; and, galloping on, left him to be brought up by Bogos and myself. The Tatar was very desirous of continuing the journey this evening; but, observing Mr. Morris's severe illness, he was persuaded to stop at Marfiwan, and send the merchandise forward under the care of Bogos. The Tatar finding a fidler, and some other Turks, in the Konac, seemed highly entertained in their company. Arrack was called for, of which they all drank an amazing quantity, undiluted: this fiery liquor soon reduced them to a state of the most brutal intoxication, in which they shrieked and howled like savages. Observing me fomenting Mr. Morris's ankle, they insisted they could do it better, and, in their drunken attempt, spilt the fomentation. The reader will easily conceive, that, in the midst of such riot, it was impossible either to enjoy the refreshment of sleep, or any other comfort, necessary to restore my sick friend.

April

April 28th. The Tatar expressing his determination to wait no longer on account of Mr. Morris illness, that gentleman was compelled to mount at day break, in a very unfit state to encounter the fatigues of a journey. In the earlier part of the day the Tatar frequently dismounted, owing to the sickness occasioned by his last night's debauch: he afterwards galloped on, leaving one of the drivers to conduct Mr. Morris. I likewise staid behind, not only to bear him company, but to be at hand to give him such assistance as his situation required. We soon lost our guide, and found ourselves in the midst of a wild, inhospitable country; unacquainted with the road, and unable, from our ignorance of the language, to receive information from any one of the people whom chance might throw in our way: all that we could do was to follow the track before us; but as this branched off in different directions, and was sometimes not to be discerned at all, we were often in a state of the greatest doubt and anxiety. At last, having ascended an eminence, we came to a pass defended by a guard-house, where we had
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the happiness to find the Tatar, and the rest of the party. After refreshing ourselves here for an hour, we set out again, and at four o'clock in the afternoon got into a town, called Osmanjike, about forty miles distant from Marfiwan.

Having procured fresh horses, we prepared to set out from Osmanjike, but had the greatest difficulty in persuading Lieutenant Morris to proceed with us. His exertions this day (which were surprising, if we consider his weak and painful situation) had almost exhausted his strength and spirits: we prevailed on him at last, and set out for Hadjee Hamza, distant about twenty-four miles. About five o'clock we crossed the river Aitoezu, over a stone bridge, and followed the course of the water, which was on our right hand the whole way.

The Tatar accompanied us till dusk, and then pushed on towards the Konac, leaving us to the guidance of one of the drivers, with whom, from our mutual want of language, we could

could have no oral communication, and who was, besides, a fellow of a furly disposition. We had only travelled about ten miles from our last stage, when Mr. Morris seemed almost exhausted: in order to support his spirits, and call forth all his exertion, I often persuaded him that he was near the Konac; and he continued to advance for some time with extraordinary resolution: at length, spent with fatigue, and sinking under excruciating pain, he declared himself unable to proceed any further. We were now benighted, in the midst of a wild country, remote from any human habitation, and on the brink of a frightful precipice. In this distressing and perplexing situation, I was for some time entirely at a loss how to act; on the one hand, I had little hope that my sick friend would be able to reach the Konac; on the other, I feared, that if he passed the night on the wet ground, it would be fatal to his life. I determined, at last, to try if I could prevail on him to advance: for this purpose I made use of the most pressing entreaties; and concluded with promising, that as soon as we should find a rock that
would

would afford us a little shelter, I would urge him to proceed no further that night. Overcome by my solicitations, he reluctantly consented to move forwards, and we advanced for some miles. As his fever rendered him very thirsty, I went down to the river for some water, which recruited his strength so much, that he found himself able to keep his seat on horseback for some time longer. After riding a few miles we discovered a light, which appeared to be about a mile before us, and which we concluded to be the Konac; this agreeable sight immediately operated as a cordial, in reviving the spirits of my companion. Hadjee Hamza was, however, four miles off; and if Mr. Morris had not possessed a degree of patience and perseverance, which is found in few men, it would have been utterly impossible for us to have reached the Konac that night. It was near midnight when we arrived: Mr. Morris had almost lost the use of his hands and feet, and was otherwise so extremely ill, as to be unable to dismount without assistance. I imagine, that if I had not deceived him in the distance we had before us, his spi-
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rits would have been unequal to the performance of this day's journey, which was above sixty-four miles. People seldom know how much they are capable of performing, till necessity compels them to exert all their powers.

April 29th. Lieutenant Morris continued in the same dreadful state as yesterday, but was, notwithstanding, prevailed upon to proceed on the journey. We left Hadjee Hamza at six o'clock in the morning, and arrived at Tofia at two o'clock in the afternoon. On our road this day we forded a river, and crossed the beds of several large torrents.

April 30th. We halted at Tofia, for want of horses to proceed.

May 1st. Continued at Tofia, waiting for horses.

This day the symptoms of Mr. Morris's disorder appeared aggravated: he had totally lost the use of his arms and legs, the joints of which were swelled, and highly inflamed; he
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was feverish, restless, and without appetite; and having subsisted for some days almost entirely on water, was in a state of extreme debility.

May 2d. Horses being procured, the Tatar resolved not to wait till Mr. Morris should be better, but to set out immediately for Constantinople. Having, therefore, repaid me the hundred piastras he had borrowed at Diarbekir, he departed at eight o'clock this morning, leaving Bogos to serve as our conductor, as soon as Mr. Morris should be in a condition to travel. It was judged expedient that the Major should accompany Bekir Aga, in order to forward to us, from Constantinople, such remittances as we might have occasion for.

Having called up all my philosophy to reconcile me to the unpleasant situation to which I was reduced, I proceeded to visit my patient. He was still perfectly helpless, and so racked with excruciating pain, that he looked forward with pleasure to his expected dissolution, as the period of a state so truly miserable,

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Having bled him, I administered such medicines as I thought his case required, and in six hours found him relieved beyond my most sanguine hopes: the pain and swelling of his joints was considerably abated, and he now suffered very little, except when he attempted to move.

May 3d. My patient was surprizingly better: the inflammation of his joints had almost entirely subsided, and, with assistance, he could move a little about the room. He was, however, very weak, from a fever that came on in the evening, and was succeeded by cold sweats. This day we were inhumanly turned out of the Konac; but Bogos soon procured us another lodging, at a short distance.

May 4th. Mr. Morris continued in a state of rapid improvement. He this day felt, for the first time since his illness, a little appetite for food; and was able, with the support of my arm, to walk about his room. My own spirits were greatly raised by so near a prospect of his recovery.

May

May 5th. Mr. Morris had this day entirely recovered the use of his legs, and of one arm. His evening fever was neither so violent, nor of such long duration, as on former nights; and the cold sweats being diminished, he felt himself considerably stronger. As I was anxious to proceed, and the weather was now very mild, I urged him to leave our present quarters; observing, that his strength would be sooner recovered by moderate exercise in the open air, than by confinement in the house; and that the nearer we could get to Constantinople, the greater resources we should find, in case of any untoward accident. He readily assented to the truth of what I had advanced; and we cheerfully prepared to leave a place where we had experienced so much harsh and inhospitable treatment. Having, with great difficulty, procured horses, we set out at one o'clock from Tofia. About an hour after our departure there came on a heavy shower of rain and hail, followed by a very cold wind; and, as we were completely wet, I began to fear Mr. Morris might have a re-

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lapse.

lapse. We afterwards suffered greatly from thirst, not being able to find water for many hours. In the dusk of the evening, as we were descending a hill, we discovered, at a short distance before us, the Konac, in which we were to halt for the night; but, trusting to the guide, he led us five miles out of the road, and as the night was dark, we found ourselves absolutely at a loss how to proceed. The weather was rainy, and my convalescent friend so cold, and so much exhausted by fatigue, that if we had been obliged to pass the night on the ground, I do not believe he would have survived it. Coja Bogos, who, for our greater security and convenience, had assumed the Turkish name of Ibrahim Aga, and the character of a Tatar, proceeded to inflict severe chastisement on the driver, who had mistaken the road: this step, however, had no tendency to relieve our present distress. We should have continued to wander in uncertainty till day light, if, upon recollection of the position in which we had seen the Konac some hours before, I had not luckily conjectured on which side of us it lay: in consequence of my advice
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the whole party turned to the right, and soon found a track which led to the top of a hill; here we luckily met two Turks, who directed us into the road. As the night was extremely dark, I was fearful that a false step of my horse might throw me down the precipices we had to pass; I therefore dismounted, but when on foot, found myself, through the weight and awkwardness of my Turkish dress, unable to keep up with the party; while the height of the stirrup, and the loose manner in which the Turkish horses are girted, rendered it equally impossible for me to remount without their assistance. Having fallen considerably behind my companions, I began to fear that I should lose them, and therefore called out as loudly as I was able. After several unsuccessful attempts, I made them hear me; and with their help remounted my horse, fully determined, for the future, rather to run any risk, than put myself again into so disagreeable a predicament. At ten o'clock we arrived at the Konac, called Cojafate; which, though a miserable village, was full of charms

to travellers, so wearied in body and mind as we were. Bogos had no sooner alighted, than he began to beat the driver afresh for losing the road: by the mediation of the rest of the people he was prevailed upon to desist, but not till he had given the poor fellow many severe cuts of his whip. Bogos, whom for the future we shall call Ibrahim, with the name had assumed all the insolence and violence of a real Tatar: of this he had already given us many proofs; for though Mr. Morris was so weak as to be unable to travel fast, he was perpetually, and unnecessarily, teizing him to quicken his pace; while, on the other hand he would himself stop on the road, and come up so slowly, that we were frequently obliged to wait for him. My companion had suffered so much fatigue this day, that a good night's rest seemed absolutely necessary to enable him to prosecute his journey: this, however, was a comfort, which neither he nor myself were to enjoy; for a drunken Tatar, of a savage aspect and who had passed us on the road, made such a barbarous noise, with another Turk, for the greater

greater part of the night, as prevented our getting any sleep till morning.

May 6th. We found that it had frozen hard in the night, and that some snow had fallen. My companion was much better than I expected, considering how much he had suffered in our march the preceding evening; he was, however, still very weak. Having procured fresh horses, we set out, at seven o'clock in the morning, for Carachurín, where we arrived at two. A detachment of soldiers were quartered in this place; and, as some of the inhabitants insisted we were Russians, (with whom the Turks are at war) we were not without apprehensions of being insulted: however, one of them having read our pass, which proved to what nation we belonged, we took our repose for about an hour, unmolested. We then remounted our horses to proceed towards Corregelar; but Ibrahim, who to the insolence of a Turkish Tatar added the avarice of an Armenian merchant, refused to make any present to the people of the Konac, and in the heat of the dispute, occasioned by this refusal, threatened to beat them: how-

ever, notwithstanding his⁹ menaces, they kept fast hold of his bridle till their demands were satisfied. Lieutenant Morris and myself, from the beginning, had withdrawn to a short distance, that we might not be involved in the possible ill consequences of an altercation, in which, from our ignorance of the language, we could take no part. At four o'clock we reached the village of Corregelar. On our road we passed the Tatar who had been so troublesome to us the preceding night. The common phrase, "dead drunk," could not be more aptly applied than to this man: his servant rode behind him, holding him up by the middle of the body, while his head hung as low as the stirrup, and he was to all appearance without either sense or motion. He was brought into the Konac soon after our arrival, where loud snoring was the only sign of life he exhibited. This day we passed over a high, bleak country; and, though we travelled at a brisk rate, our hands and feet were numbed with ~~the~~ cold.

May

May 7th. Having procured fresh horses, we set out at seven o'clock in the morning; and passing through the village of Sarkees, which was full of soldiers, we arrived at Baidar, about twelve at noon. Ibrahim was so intolerably troublesome to my sick companion on the road to this place, that, finding threats of personal chastisement insufficient to repress his insolence, I at last presented my pistol at him: this had all the effect I could wish; and he remained perfectly quiet for many hours. We set out from Baidar at one o'clock, with fresh horses. On our departure, Ibrahim again disputed about the present required by the people of the Konac; but they held the reins of our horses till he had complied with their demands. We arrived at Jeredare by sun set, and saw icicles hanging from the eaves of the houses more than two feet in length. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the want of clothing proper for the climate, and the badness of the accommodations in the Konacs, Mr. Morris's health and spirits were evidently improving; so that,

in spite of all the inconveniences and fatigues we had yet to encounter, I was not without hopes of overtaking Major Macleod and the Tatar before their arrival at Constantinople.

May 8th. It froze hard; and in the middle of the night a damp was given to the agreeable hope that had lately cheered me; for Lieutenant Morris became restless and uneasy, and exhibited other strong symptoms of a relapse: however, as he did not complain much in the morning, we left Jeredare at six o'clock. About half way between this place and the next Konac we found a pass, defended by six soldiers, who, if required, supply travellers with provisions. Here we made a meal of fried eggs and bread; and were informed by a Tatar, that he had seen the rest of our company two days' journey before us: hence it appeared, that we had gained a day upon them; for they had set off above three days before us. Soon after leaving the guard-house, we passed several small detachments of the Turkish army, whose conversation we avoided, by pushing on at a brisk pace. The
country,

country we saw this day was barren, and little cultivated. We got into Boli, a large town seated on a plain, at twelve o'clock at noon. About eight o'clock at night we heard two or three shots fired, and the noise of people running to and fro in the streets: this rather alarmed us, and the door of the Konac was immediately bolted. Upon enquiry, we found that the firing we had heard was occasioned by some dispute among the soldiers, who were quartered here. A Turkish officer came into the Konac this evening, and enquired who we were. Ibrahim, after giving his account of us, added, that he was himself a Turk. After receiving the compliment of a pipe and coffee, the officer departed, wishing us a good journey. He was a well-behaved, agreeable man, of about the age of thirty. After he was gone, Ibrahim exulted with intemperate joy, at having so well counterfeited the Turk.

May 9th. We left Boli at six o'clock in the morning, mounted on fresh, but very bad horses, and at a short distance from the town overtook three detachments of soldiers, on their march to the capital. We proceeded through a large forest,
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and over high hills, till near two o'clock, when we reached a small village, called Dufchea. It was with great difficulty that I brought my companion to this place, owing to the return of the inflammation in his joints. I had been frequently obliged to take him off his horse, on the road, that he might have a few minutes rest, without which it would have been impossible for him to have performed this day's journey. On his arrival I found him so ill, from pain and fatigue, that I determined to wait here until the next morning. There were in the Konac ten or twelve Tatars, on their route from different places to Constantinople, who urged us much to proceed with them. One of them very civilly represented, that the soldiers were soon to come into the place, who might get drunk, and, finding we were Christians, might rob and murder us; that our road lay through a wood, which was infested with thieves, and dangerous to pass, unless in a numerous party; concluding with an offer, to wait for us two or three hours. I readily acquiesced with what he had advanced; but

as my friend was unable to move, I was obliged to decline his civil offer. The party of Tatars, nevertheless, waited two hours; when, finding there was no prospect of Mr. Morris's being able to travel, they departed. Soon after they had gone, a party of soldiers came into the Konac, who were prevented from discovering that we were foreigners, by our feigning sleep, and continuing on our mattresses till they left the village next morning.

May 10th. The pain Lieutenant Morris felt yesterday, having somewhat abated this morning, we left Dufchea, on fresh horses, at seven o'clock, and arrived at Hindak about one. The valley of Dufchea is rich, and, in some places, very well cultivated. In the earlier part of the day we forded a river, and afterwards crossed two others of a larger size, over wooden bridges. Finding a rivulet on our road, at the foot of some pleasant, verdant hills, we sat down on its banks to eat some bread; when a Turkish soldier, who belonged to a detachment which had come up with us, seeing a Japan mug in my hand, took it gently

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ly from me, and having drank, returned it, and proceeded on his march without speaking a word: ~~he was~~ followed by two or three more, who made use of it in the like manner; as soon as they had given it back to me, I stepped out of the way of others, who were coming up, for fear that I should, at last lose this little convenient vessel, which, though of no intrinsic value, we had found of the highest use during the whole journey. The latter part of our road lay, for many miles, through the wood, of which the Tatars, at Dufchea, had given us so formidable an account,

Lieutenant Morris was very unwilling to go any further this evening; he, however, yielded to the representations I made him of the many inconveniences we must submit to, if we staid at this place. We procured good horses for Sabanja, at the rate of two piastras for each horse, and set out at two o'clock from Hindak. As we were on the point of departing, Ibrahim fell into one of his accustomed disputes
with

with the master of the Komac, respecting the hire of the horses: the altercation was not of long duration, for the Turk, with great coolness and gravity, laid hold of Ibrahim's horse, and unsaddled him, and the pretended Tatar was reduced to solicit for him, on the Turk's own terms. The first part of our journey this evening lay over a morass, rendered passable by a sort of bridge or causeway, which consisted of large pieces of timber laid parallel to each other, over which were smaller pieces, crossing the former at right angles: this led us to a disagreeable road, which was frequently interrupted by ditches and bogs, in one of which Mr. Morris's horse had nearly stuck fast. At four o'clock in the evening we passed two detachments of the Turkish army, which were encamped. As we had a long way to go, and had sufficient experience of the discomfort of travelling in this wild country by night, we pushed on for two hours at a brisk gallop, till we came to a river called Zacharea, which we crossed, at sun set, by a wooden bridge, about a quarter of a mile in length, but of a very rude construction. We were told

told here, that Sabanja was not far off; and therefore advanced only at a moderate pace till dark, when we came to one of the worst roads I had ever met with: it lay through a morass, and was intersected by such a number of different tracks, that the driver who conducted us was at a loss which to take. We however, continued to advance; and, notwithstanding every precaution we could take, our horses were frequently up to the belly in mud and water. We were now many miles beyond the Zacharea, but found no signs of the vicinity of any town: we at last came to a large lake on our right, along the edge of which we waded for four miles, so deeply in the water, that not only our boots, but our bundles of clothes, medicines, and tea, were completely wetted. After leaving the lake, we came to a muddy ditch, which was hardly passable; after many unsuccessful attempts to cross it on horseback, I dismounted, and examining the banks, found a narrow dam, which barely afforded a passage to a man on foot; this, however, I determined to attempt, leading my horse after me. I succeeded; and in the same

same manner, though with more difficulty led over Mr. Morris's horse. Ibrahim, who had attempted to cross in another place, stuck fast in the mud, from which we fortunately extricated him. We did not arrive at Sabanja till ten o'clock at night; so that it must have been many miles further than was reported us at the river Zacharea. On our arrival, we found the Konak so full of Tatars, that we had no room to lie down, even on the bare ground; however, the servant was persuaded to find a corner for Mr. Morris, who was extremely ill of his rheumatic disorder, and was unable to walk. For my own part, I could find no room till two o'clock in the morning when most of the Tatars departed. We enjoyed a little sleep; and felt our spirits greatly raised by the reflection, that we were now at a short distance from Constantinople.

May 11th. We left Sabanja at six o'clock in the morning; and at some distance from the town we were overtaken by two armed men, who kept with us for a considerable time, regulating their motion by ours. As their appearance

pearance and behaviour was rather suspicious, we stopped ; and Ibrahim, in the authoritative tone of a Tatar, insisted upon their leaving us, which they refused to do. We then made ready our arms, to shew them we were prepared to resist any violence they might be meditating : they nevertheless continued to accompany us till we came in sight of a detachment of soldiers, when they fell behind. About half way between Sabanja and Ismit, we forded a river ; and the driver having taken a deeper part of the water than ourselves, wetted all Ibrahim's bags : this little accident affected him with unreasonable concern, and threw him into such a rage against the driver, that, in the true spirit of the character he assumed, he beat him without mercy. At the distance of a mile from Ismit, we passed a second detachment of soldiers, and crossed a river, over a stone bridge. Nor far from hence we saw a large encampment of horse and foot.*

We

* The different detachments of the Turkish army I saw during my journey, exhibited no marks of military regularity

We arrived at Ismit at twelve o'clock at noon, but Mr. Morris continued so ill, that it was impossible to proceed any further till he should be a little recovered; we therefore agreed to

larity and discipline: they marched without order; some of them mounted either on horses, asses, or mules. Their dress was not uniform, but they had generally a short jacket, coarse, and of a dark colour, with wide breeches: some wore shoes of leather, or raw hides; others woollen gaiters, fastened with a cord, or ropes of straw twisted round their legs. Their arms consisted of short, light muskets, without bayonets, mounted according to the fancy of the owners, and of knives of different lengths. The officers were well mounted, and handsomely clothed; but in a dress ill suited to the activity of a military life. The Janissaries, formerly so much talked of, have at this day nothing but the *ESPRIT DE CORPS* to distinguish them from the bulk of the army. In this description may be included the artillery; and, as the operations of that corps do in particular require military science, it is, comparatively speaking, inferior to the infantry. The cavalry, perhaps, are entitled to more consideration. The irregularity, licentiousness, and military ignorance, common to the Ottoman forces in general, is equally found in their best squadrons; but the activity, spirit, and docility of the horses, renders this corps the most efficient in the Turkish army; and, indeed, it is upon this that they depend for the success of their military operations.

stop here, till by proper care, and the use of medicines, he should be in a condition to travel. We had now the happiness to find ourselves within sixty miles of Constantinople, and on the shore of that sea, whose waters wash the borders of Europe.

Ismit, the ancient Nicomedia of Bithynia, is a large populous town, seated on the declivity of a hill, and extending to the sea side: it has a good port, in a gulph of the same name. The Konac in which we were lodged was crowded with people; and there was a general stir and bustle in the town, owing to the neighbourhood of the encampment which we passed on the road. Such a situation was not very likely to afford those conveniences for my sick friend, which were the object of our intended stay in this place; we therefore determined to take the opportunity of a boat, that was just departing for Constantinople, which we considered as the period of our fatigues, and as replete with all the comforts necessary for Mr. Morris's ill state of health. I immediately prepared such provisions as I

thought

thought necessary; and in an hour after our arrival at Ismit we were under sail for Constantinople. Lieutenant Morris passed a bad night, partly owing to the inconsiderate brutality of Ibrahim, who, having got drunk with the liquors I had provided for the passage, came down into the cabin to sleep. There was hardly room for one person to lie in it at full length, and Mr. Morris was still in great pain, and without the use of his legs; so that the intrusion of the Armenian prevented his getting any sleep the whole night. Our boatmen were the most civil Turks I ever met with: one of them treated me with coffee; and, after an enquiry from what quarter I was travelling, asked me if I was a Mussulman: as he was himself of that persuasion, and, of course, intolerant towards all other religions, I thought it prudent to answer, that, by the blessing of God, I was. This conversation, which I began to fear might be pushed to an unpleasant length, was interrupted by the Captain, who sharply reprimanded the sailor for the liberty he took in questioning me. Our fellow passengers were about forty in

number, and mostly of the Armenian nation. The weather was pleasant, and the water perfectly smooth; this, indeed, is generally the case in the Propontis, or Sea of Marmora, which we were now navigating; and even when the wind is violent, it is seldom so agitated, but that vessels are perfectly safe. Having passed by a cluster of small islands, we had a beautiful, but distant, prospect of Constantinople. We then passed near Kadi-Kieu, the ancient Calcedon; and crossing the Bosphorus, at eight o'clock at night arrived at Constantinople. It was now too late to go on shore, we therefore remained on board the boat till the next morning.

May 13th. Mr. Morris was unable to walk, and the narrowness of the streets in Constantinople does not allow the use of carriages; I therefore hired a man to carry him to the house of Mr. Humphreys, an English merchant. This gentleman, and his whole family, treated us with such kindness and hospitality, as was only to be found among our own countrymen. We found Major Macleod here,
who

who had arrived only two days before us. We were soon informed that the plague had begun to rage in this city, and at Smyrna was very rife; but we were become ~~so much~~ danger, that this scourge of ~~that~~ little concern.

The city of Constantinople is inhabited by Turks, Jews, Armenians, and Greeks: and it is a curious circumstance, that the plague is seldom equally destructive to all these different nations at the same time; its ravages are generally confined to one of them, while the rest, comparatively speaking, suffer but little loss.

Some years ago, an inhabitant of the shores of the Euxine sea, successively cured seven hundred persons of the plague, at Constantinople; and it was thought that he was in possession of a specific for that destructive malady. Some time after, the plague broke out again, and the physician was sent for; but notwithstanding the singular efficacy of his remedies

on the former occasion, he was now found unable to relieve in a single case.

The harbour of Constantinople, though one of the finest and safest in the world, labours under a considerable disadvantage, from its position; for as the North wind almost constantly blows in these quarters, and a strong current sets down the straits from the Black Sea, vessels are generally obliged to anchor in some part of the Hellespont, where they are sometimes detained for two months, before the wind is fair for the port. To attempt to give an account of a place so well known as the city of Constantinople, would be ridiculous here, and greatly exceed the bounds I have proposed to myself in this Journal; I shall therefore refer my reader to the many excellent accounts, which have been already published of this celebrated metropolis.

The war between the Turks and Imperial powers prevented our returning, as we originally intended, by Vienna; we therefore took our passage in a French ship, bound to Trieste.

By

By the use of medicine, and the kind treatment of our hospitable entertainer at Constantinople, Lieutenant Morris's health was now pretty well restored; and nothing remained but to recruit his strength.

May 18th. We departed from Constantinople at four o'clock in the evening.

May 19th. We kept along the coast of Europe, which was verdant and well cultivated, as far as Rodosto, where we came to an anchor, at five o'clock in the evening. This is a pretty town, seated on the side of a hill: here we continued taking in cotton till

May 25th, in the morning, when we weighed anchor: we did not make much way, owing to the slackness of the wind. We passed the island of Marmora on our left hand, which has a hilly, barren appearance, and is little cultivated. The country on our right had nearly the same aspect.

May 26th. We passed a small town, called Gallipoli, situated on the straits of the same

[name, formerly called the Hellespont. At four o'clock in the evening we came to an anchor at the Dardanelles, where there are two forts, of no great consequence, for the defence of the straits; they are situated opposite to each other, and are the Sestos and Abydos of the ancients. At the Dardanelles all ships, either coming or going, are obliged to stop, to take a pass. Though the country, on both sides of the straits, is barren and hilly, they present a beautiful and romantic prospect, in which the distant and snowy top of Mount Olympus is no inconsiderable object.

May 27th. About six o'clock in the morning we weighed anchor, and a Turkish officer came to us with our pass: he did not come on board, but delivered the papers from the end of a stick. As soon as we had received them, they were held some time over the smock of a fire: this custom has been adopted to prevent the communication of the plague, which was then doing much havock in the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles. Soon after we had got under way, we came in sight
of

of three batteries, at the entrance of the Hellespont, two of which are on the European, and the third on the Asiatic side of the strait: these were built by a French engineer; but, though tolerably strong, they are unequal to prevent the passage of an enemy's fleet.

We left the mouth of the straits, with the wind and current in our favour, and soon came in sight of the islands of Tenedos and Eubros, both on our right hand; we sailed close to the shore, which was once occupied by the famous city of Troy. The country had a very sterile appearance, only producing a few bushes. As we approached Tenedos, we observed a town on its eastern side, and an old castle. About nine o'clock, A.M. we saw Lemnos; and at noon came in sight of Mytelene, formerly Lesbos. At one o'clock, P.M. discovered Scio on our left, and St. Strade on our right; and at six descried St. George. A fine fair breeze all day.

May 28th. Weather still fair. Saw Cape Doro on the Negropont, towards the right,
and

and the Isle of Andro, towards the left. At eleven o'clock, A.M. passed between them, when we saw Zea, Tino, Sura, and Jura, part of the Cyclades. It is principally from these islands that Pera of Constantinople is supplied with Greek servants. We observed four vessels at anchor at Zea, and steered between that island and Isola Longa. At three o'clock, P.M. we were abreast of Termee, and in sight of Serfou. All these islands, as well as the main land, are hilly, and have a sterile appearance: the few spots which appear to be cultivated, produce the vine. At eleven o'clock P.M. we passed St. George.

May 29th. We were becalmed, having the island of Pero, and the main land, in sight on our right; and Antimillo, Bella Pola, and Falconiera a-head.

May 30th. Becalmed. We spoke to a French frigate at sun set.

May 31st: A very gentle breeze; Cavari in sight in the morning; passed it at eleven o'clock, P.M.

June

June 1st. A calm, Cape Ange, Candia, and Cerigo, in sight, and Cavari close astern. About five o'clock in the evening, discovered three corsairs a-head, near Cape Ange. The French frigate we spoke to the 30th ult. bore down to us, to direct us to be on our guard against the corsairs; we accordingly put up the dead lights.

June 2d. The wind was fresh, but from a foul quarter. At four o'clock, A.M, we cleared Cape Ange; having Cerigo on our right, and Candia in sight a-head. All these islands have a sterile, uncultivated appearance. The French frigate kept company with us, and the corsairs disappeared.

June 3d. Saw the snowy mountains of Candia, and of the Morea, having some rocks between Candia and Cerigo a-head. As the wind was foul, we lay to this night, after clearing the rocks.

June 4th. The wind continued contrary, and we weathered Cerigo, and at night stood

in

in for the main land: we made little way this day.

June 5th. The wind foul and strong; we tacked frequently in the gulph of Pagana, to clear Cape Matapan, but without effect, and at night lay to under the land. We put up our dead lights, on account of two large boats and a brig, which we supposed were corsairs, and made ready our small arms, and loaded the guns, of which our vessel carried half a dozen, three and six pounders.

June 6th. The wind abated, and became more favourable, which enabled us to clear Cape Matapan early in the morning: the land upon it is rocky and barren. At ten o'clock, A.M. the wind became foul, and blew so strong from the North-West, that we were obliged to put back into the gulph of Pagana, in company with a Neopolitan brig. About six o'clock, P.M. it abated, and we put out again.

June

June 7th. About two o'clock, A.M. the wind died away, and left a prodigious swell. After two attempts to double Cape Matapan, we were obliged to return to the gulph of Pagana, owing to squalls of wind and rain from the North-West, which came on violently towards the evening, and which were succeeded by a calm.

June 8th. The calm continued, and in spite of every effort we could make, the current drove us within a few yards of the rocks of Cape Matapan. We heaved the lead, but could find no bottom. In this distress we took such precautions as occurred, to prevent our drowning, after the vessel should have struck against the rocks; and, as I could not swim, I prepared to tie myself to an oar, as the only means that gave me a chance of preserving my life. Just as the vessel was on the point of striking, we let go the anchor, which, to our great joy and surprize, found bottom, and prevented her from driving any further. We were so near the rocks, that some wild Greeks, called Maniots, who were observing
us,

us, were spoken to by one of the passengers. As there was a Venetian man of war at anchor at some distance from us, we fired a gun, as a signal of distress; and in about an hour's time a boat with ten men came down to our assistance. We got ready two anchors to warp her off the shore; but when the Maniots perceived that we were endeavouring to get the vessel away, they immediately fired upon us from the rock; but, though they were at the distance of a very few yards, the ship's company escaped unhurt. A light breeze springing up, assisted us in our strenuous endeavours to get out of the reach of this new danger, which we at last happily effected, leaving the two anchors behind us. These Maniots are the inhabitants of the hills, who are not accessible to the oppression and insolence of the Turks: they are wretchedly poor, and generally addicted to rapine and violence. We stood out to sea, in company with the Venetian man of war, but in about two hours it began to blow again from the North-West, and continued stormy the whole night.

June 9th. The North-West wind continuing to blow with great violence, we were obliged to return into the gulph of Pagana, where we anchored in a part of it called Narganiso, near the village of Mardonis. Here there is a Greek church, and one or two houses: the rest of the place consists of wretched huts, running up the side of a rocky, barren hill. There are some of the remains of ancient Paliopolis to be seen in the neighbourhood, but the greater part of them have been swallowed up by the sea. A Neopolitan brig is at anchor near us.

June 10th. Our Captain went ashore, and brought back fresh water and provisions.

June 11th. We weighed anchor at sun rise. Wind variable, and weather cloudy. This day was spent in unsuccessful attempts to work out of the gulph.

June 12th. About ten o'clock, A.M. a hard gale of wind came on from the North-West, which obliged us to run to the North-East

East of Cerigo, to anchor under the shelter of the high land: it continued blowing violently until nine o'clock, P.M. when it began to abate.

June 13th. About noon we left Cerigo, with a fair breeze, which died away at four o'clock, P.M. The wind was afterwards variable; and about midnight we came again a-breast of Cape Matapan.

June 14th. Spoke to two French frigates in the morning. Wind variable.

June 15th. Wind foul.

June 16th. Wind continued foul. Latitude observed 36—30.

June 17th. Wind still foul. Latitude, by observation, 36—24.

June 18th. Some wind. In the morning Zante in sight to the Northward, and Stanefane islands to the South. In the evening,
got

got off the mouth of the harbour of Zante.
Latitude, by observation, 36—49.

June 20th. Made very little way during the night; but at seven o'clock, A.M. saw the islands of Cephalonia and St. Maur a-head. Made the Northern extremity of Zante at sunset.

June 21st. At day break off the Southern extremity of Cephalonia: this island has a fertile appearance, and we observed many houses on the level ground between the hills and the sea.

June 22d. Off Cephalonia, with St. Maur in sight.

June 23d. Becalmed.

June 24th. At night got into a very snug harbour at St. Maur. We put up the dead lights, on account of two vessels we had observed as we entered the harbour, and which had the appearance of corsairs.

June 25th. We took in water and fresh provisions, and all went ashore; it is curious to observe, that though the inhabitants took great care to avoid touching our persons, for fear of the infection of the plague, they very readily washed our linnen. There is a fine spring of fresh water here, but the soil is almost barren: a few small spots only, by dint of labour, produce grain for the subsistence of the people. The Venetians are masters of this island, which, though thinly inhabited and little cultivated, is of some value, on account of its excellent harbour, where vessels may lie secure from the North-West wind, which prevails in these seas.

June 26th. We left St. Maur early in the morning, and saw the island of Ithaca, Great and Little Cephalonia on our left. We were becalmed in the evening, close to the western shore of St. Maur.

June 27th. Off St. Maur and Cephalonia.

June 28th. We were in sight of the islands of Corfu, Paschu and Antipaschu. Latitude
observed

observed 39—24, with light and pleasant breezes. Almost all the islands on the western side of Turkey in Europe are subject to the Venetians: Corfu is the chief and most fertile of them, and the residence of a Governor General, whose jurisdiction extends to all the rest.

June 29th. We were to the westward of Corfu: very hot weather for these last four days.

June 30th. Saw the island of Fano.

July 1st. In the morning we were two leagues to the southward of Fano; and at sunset came close to the coast of Italy, between Cape Otranto and Cape St. Maria. As it now began to blow hard from the North-West, we were extremely anxious to get ashore; but the Captain represented to us, that if we landed here, the people might destroy us on suspicion that we had the plague. We then suggested Corfu as a place where we might perform a short quarantine, which would enable us to pass through Italy; but in spite of the large

offers of reward we made him, he persisted in starting such difficulties as obliged us to give up the scheme. Nothing remained for us but to proceed with the ship to Trieste, which the prevalency of the North-West wind in the gulph of Venice, would probably render a voyage both long and hazardous.

July 2d. We were two leagues to the Northward of Fano, with Cape Lergaste, in Albania, a-head of us. As the wind continued blowing violently from the North-West, we were obliged to bear away for a little island, called Marlet, or Marifano. At two o'clock, P.M. we came to an anchor in a small bay, in which we found two Venetian vessels, which had been with us at St. Maur. Marlet is a small, barren, sandy island, and in a few places produces an inconsiderable quantity of grain and pulse, for the subsistence of the inhabitants. We took in water at this place.

July 3d. The wind still blowing strong from the North-West, we remained at anchor.

July

July 4th. A light southerly breeze sprung up, and we departed early in the morning; but about noon, when we had got between the islands of Fano and Mandracha, it blew so strongly from the North-West, that we were compelled to return to our anchorage at Marlet.

July 5th. In the evening we weighed anchor, with a South-West breeze, and sailed between Marlet and the rocky, barren coast of Albania, in company with the two Venetian vessels. At midnight the wind died away, and we bore up for the land; but the seamen of the watch being asleep, and the helmsman dozing, we got so near the shore, that there was evident risk of the vessel's striking. Alarmed at the danger, I immediately roused the man who was steering, and we put about ship just in time to escape being driven by the current on a shore, whose inhabitants are as barbarous and inhospitable as those of Cape Matapan. This was not the first opportunity I had had of observing the negligence of French seamen: the whole of our ship's company were fre-

quently asleep in the night; and at all times there was generally such a want of discipline, that the men at the wheel would carelessly quit their station to fetch any thing they wanted, so that the ship would go about, or her sails be thrown in the wind.

July 6th. We had a fair wind all day, which advanced us considerably on our voyage. We now enjoyed the exhilarating hope of reaching Trieste in four or five days.

July 7th. The wind continued fair all night, but as soon as it was day it began to shift, and came gradually round to the North-West quarter. About six o'clock, P.M. we saw the land about Cape Polignano, in Italy.

July 8th. In the morning saw the coast of Dalmatia, and in the evening that about Cattaro and Ragusa, with the island of Melida, where, according to some writers, St. Paul landed, after his shipwreck.

July

July 9th. By six o'clock this evening we had worked to within a league of the town of Ragusa: this is a small, independent Republic, and was the Epidaurus of the ancients. The fort has not the appearance of any strength, and the surrounding country is hilly and barren.

July 10th. The islands of Melida, Augousta, Curzole, and Sabioncella, were in sight to the Northward.

July 11th. We were close to the Southward of Melida, with scarcely a breath of wind.

July 12th. We had a gentle and fair breeze till eight o'clock, P.M. when we got between Augousta and Curzole: the entrance of the channel between these islands is dangerous, on account of a great number of low rocks. Lissa is in sight to the North-East.

July 13th. Came in sight of Lefnia, or Lefina, to the East.

July 14th. Cleared the island of Curzole, and came close to the Southward of Lefnia.

July 15th. In the morning between Lefnia and Liffa; and at one o'clock, P.M. passed close to the Eastern side of Liffa, where we observed a small town, and a harbour.

July 16th. The ship's company had become very discontented, on account of their being now reduced to a short allowance of water and provisions; the Captain, therefore, determined to take in a supply of those necessary articles at Lefnia: for this purpose we put about ship, and at two o'clock, P.M. cast anchor in the harbour of Lefnia. We found here a neat town, which, though very small, contained five or six churches. As water is scarce at this place, we paid for the supply we wanted. Lefnia, as well as the neighbouring islands, appears to be rocky, and unproductive.

July 17th. I went ashore, but was not permitted to walk into the town, on account
of

of my coming from a place infected with the plague. At eight o'clock, P.M. we weighed anchor.

July 18th. The wind being contrary, we were in the morning to the Southward of Lefnia and Liffa; but working up in the evening, got to the Northward of them.

July 19th. The wind being from the North-West, we had fallen back during the night as far as Liffa, but made some westing during the day.

July 20th. Close to Ifola Longa.

July 21st was spent in working up along Ifola Longa.

July 22d. Still working up against the wind. Saw at a distance a high mountain, on the island of Offero; and passed a well cultivated little island, on which there was a church. I was informed that those who die here, are always carried to some other place
for

for interment, on account of a superstitious notion among the inhabitants, that the spirits of those who are buried in the island do not rest.

July 23d. Becalmed.

July 24th. Still becalmed.

July 25th. The wind foul.

July 26th. We had a fair wind, which brought us near Trieste; but in the evening it chopped about, and blowing very strong, obliged us to come to an anchor in a small bay, near the town of Perang, which is built in a semicircular form, close to the water's edge.

July 27th. We weighed anchor at noon, and a fair breeze wafted us to Trieste; but we arrived at too late an hour to go on shore that night.

July 28th. In the morning all the ship's company were carried on shore, to be examined

ed by a Physician respecting the state of our health. We were then sworn as to the circumstances of our voyage, and the places we had touched at. In the evening Major Macleod, Lieutenant Morris, and myself, took up our quarters in the Lazaretto, to perform a quarantine of forty-two days.

After a few days stay in the Lazaretto, as we were all in perfect health, we petitioned to have ~~part of the~~ quarantine remitted to us, which was granted, and the term of our confinement limited to thirty-five days. Those who, like us, have performed a long and hazardous journey towards their native country, will easily conceive the tediousness of the quarantine, as well as the joy with which we received our discharge.

Major Macleod was solicitous to get as soon as possible to England, therefore took the direct road to Ostend; but Mr. Morris and myself, being desirous of seeing Venice, which could detain us only a few days, proposed to take that city in our route. The shortest passage

sage from Trieste to Venice is by water; but we had already experienced so much of the fickleness of the elements, that we determined to trust to them as little as possible; and on

Sept. 1st. at six o'clock in the evening, set out for Venice in a post chaise. As we were entirely ignorant of the Italian language, and were unprovided with an interpreter, the innkeepers on the road made us pay double the usual price for our meals, as well as the hire of the post horses. At one place the post master refused to let us have horses, unless we produced the bill of the former stage, that he might see to what amount we had been imposed upon, and thus regulate his own charges. I pretended to have lost this paper; but as he insolently declared we should not depart, even on foot, till he saw it, I was, much against my inclination, compelled to produce it.

Sept. 3d. We reached Venice about three o'clock in the afternoon, and put up at the Regina d'Inghilterra, where we met with very civil treatment.

Sept.

Sept. 4th. We indulged our curiosity with the sight of such things as are most worthy of notice at Venice.

This day two packets arrived from India, overland; and, as we were servants of the India Company, Mr. Richie, the British Consul, entrusted them to our care, requesting us to use the utmost expedition in conveying them to England: we accordingly set out immediately, and in nine days arrived at Ostend. We were surprized at the difference we found between the Italian and German post masters; for, from the first stage in the German dominions, till our arrival in Ostend, we did not suffer, in a single instance, the smallest degree of imposition.

We could not depart immediately for England, on account of the wind, which was contrary; and horses to Calais were not to be procured, being engaged to carry the swarms of people who were going to see the camps at St. Omers: we were obliged to wait here till

Sept.

Sept. 15th. The wind was fair, and we hired a boat, which was to land us either at Dover or Margate, as should be found most convenient. Captain Forbes, who had the command of an East Indiaman, at Ostend, took his passage with us. We set sail at ten o'clock, A.M. with a pleasant breeze; but, towards night, the wind began to shift to a foul quarter: at this time Captain Forbes suspected we were in shoal water, on the Goodwin sands; and, as there was no lead on board, the boatmen tied a stone to the end of a rope, with which they sounded, and found but too much reason for Captain Forbes's suspicions. In fact, we were in shallow water, and the sea ran so high, that if the boat had struck, her bottom would have been infallibly knocked out. We were in this situation for three hours, till we got into Margate roads: having landed, and refreshed ourselves at Margate, we set out immediately for London, where we arrived, and delivered the packets entrusted to us, in the afternoon of September 16th.

I was

I was now happily at the end of a dangerous and difficult journey, in which I was engaged for twelve months and sixteen days.

I T I N E R A R Y.
ROUTE AND DISTANCE OF PLACES,
FROM
PALAMCOTTA to OSTEND, &c. &c.

| | Computed English Miles. | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| From Palamcotta | | |
| To Calcade | 20 | N.B. The road by |
| Aramnè | 22 | Calcade is not |
| Cotate | 7 | the shortest way |
| Colaché | 15 | to Aramnè. |
| Pooar | 15 | |
| Polythoor | 11 | |
| Anjango | 16 | |
| Quilon | 20 | |

| From BUSSORA | | Computed English Miles. |
|--------------|---|----------------------------|
| To Corny | | 65 |
| Arja | | 100 |
| Semeya | | 95 |
| Sebay | | 30 |
| Lemloon | * | 30 |
| Dewanee | | 27 |
| Khufcusea | | 30 |
| HILLA | | 38 |
| | | 415 |

| From HILLA | | Hours. | |
|------------|----|--------|----|
| To Mahavil | 12 | 4 | |
| Scandera | 12 | 4 | |
| Beranofs | 7 | 2 | 20 |
| Azad | 6 | 2 | |
| BAGDAD | 13 | 4 | 20 |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 16 | 40 |

Brought

| | Computed Miles. | Hours. |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 50 | 16 40 |
| From BAGDAD | | |
| 1 To Yankja | 21 | 7 |
| 2 Delyabbas | 42 | 14 |
| 3 Kuscadawrie hills | 6 | 2 |
| 4 Narin river | 9 | 3 |
| 5 Karatapa | 15 | 5 |
| 6 Kuffrie | 21 | 7 |
| 7 Toufcourmartee | 24 | 8 |
| 8 Taook | 21 | 7 |
| 9 Tepellee | 9 | 3 |
| 10 KIRCOOK | 18 | 6 |
| 11 Alton Kuffrie | 24 | 8 |
| 12 Evril | 30 | 10 |
| 13 Ankava | 3 | 1 |
| 14 Killick&Zarp river | 21 | 7 |
| 15 Hafir river | 6 | 2 |
| 16 Karakoosh | 6 | 2 |
| 17 MOSUL | 18 | 6 |
| 18 Terstoff | 15 | 5 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 359 | 119 40 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| M | | <i>Brought</i> |

| | | Computed Miles. | Hours. |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|--------|
| | <i>Brought over</i> | 359 | 119 40 |
| 19 | Aflee | 30 | 10 |
| 20 | A river | 9 | 3 |
| 21 | JFSSEERA | 21 | 7 |
| 22 | Arab encampment | 27 | 9½ |
| 23 | Nisibin | 30 | 10 |
| 24 | Arin | 30 | 10 |
| 25 | MARDIN | 6 | 2 |
| 26 | DIARBEKIR | 54 | 18 |
| 27 | ARGENA | 42 | 14 |
| 28 | MEDAN | 18 | 6 |
| 29 | Village in Quenk | 30 | 10 |
| 30 | KARPOOT | 12 | 4 |
| 31 | MEDAN | 30 | 10 |
| 32 | Cherin | 30 | 10 |
| 33 | A village | 6 | 2 |
| 34 | Haffan Chillibee | 30 | 10 |
| 35 | Hadgee Khan | 21 | 7 |
| 36 | Delectetas | 27 | 9 |
| 37 | SIVAS | 30 | 10 |
| | | 842 | 280 40 |

Brought

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| | Computed Miles. | Hours. |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 842 | 280 40 |
| From SIVAS | | |
| 38 To Karkoon | 33 | 11 |
| 39 TOKAT | 33 | 11 |
| 40 Affin | 21 | 7 |
| 41 AMASIA | 42 | 14 |
| 42 MARSIWAN | 27 | 9 |
| 43 Ofmanjike | 42 | 14 |
| 44 Hadjee Hamza | 24 | 8 |
| 45 TOSIA | 27 | 9 |
| 46 Cojifate | 27 | 9 |
| 47 Carachurin | 21 | 7 |
| 48 Corregelar | 12 | 4 |
| 49 Serkees | 12 | 4 |
| 50 Bainer | 18 | 6 |
| 51 Jeredare | 21 | 7 |
| 52 BOLI | 30 | 10 |
| 53 Dufchea | 30 | 10 |
| 54 Hindak | 24 | 8 |
| 55 SABANJA | 36 | 12 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 1322 | 440 40 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

M 2

Brought

| | | Computed Miles. | Hours |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | <i>Brought over</i> | 1322 | 440 40 |
| 56 | ISMIT | 18 | 6 |
| 57 | Jebisa | 30 | 10 |
| 58 | *SCUTARI | 30 | 10† |
| 59 | CONSTANTINOPLE | | |
| | | <hr/> 1400 | <hr/> 466 40 |

* Here we crossed the Bosphorus.

† The distance to a place in Turkey is computed by the number of hours which the caravans employ in travelling to it. A caravan hour is, on an average, three English miles, unless the road is very bad, or passes through a mountainous country.

ROUTE

ROUTE FROM TRIESTE BY VENICE
TO OSTEND.

From Trieste

To VENICE

140

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Maestri | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | Posts from Ve |
| Treviso | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | nice to Ostend. |
| Castel Franco | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Balsano | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Primolano | 2 | |
| Borgo Valfugano | 2 | |
| Pergini | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| TRENTO | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| St. Michel | 1 | |
| Saborno | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Neimark | 1 | |
| Enga | 1 | |
| Balzano | 1 | |
| Teutſchen | 1 | |
| Colman | 1 | |

20 $\frac{1}{2}$

| | Posts. | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Brixen | 1 | |
| Mittewald | 1 | |
| Struzengen | 1 | |
| Brener | 1 | |
| Steinich | 1 | |
| Schenberg | 1 | |
| INSBRUCK | 1 | Capital city of |
| Dortembach | 1 | Tirol. |
| Páyenvis | 2 | |
| Nazareith | 1 | |
| Lermes | 1 | |
| Heiderwang | 1 | |
| Fuffen | 1 | |
| Savienafter | 1 | |
| Briuk | 1 | |
| Deffen | 1 | |
| Hurlach | 1 | |
| AUGSBURG | 1 | Capital of Swabia. |
| Meithengen | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| | — | |
| | 41 | |
| | — | |

Brought

| | Posts. | |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 41 | |
| Donawert | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Nordling | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Denkelpil | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Kreilshelm | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Blawfeldon | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Mergenthen | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Biscaffsein | 1 | |
| Miltemberg | 2 | |
| Ofchaffenburg | 2 | Here begins Fran- |
| Dettingen | 1 | conia. |
| Hanaw | 1 | |
| FRANCKFORT | 1 | |
| Koninstein | 1 | |
| Werges | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Laimburg | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Walmaroth | 1 | |
| Freiting | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Gulroth | 1 | |
| Weyerbusch | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| | — | |
| | 67 | |
| | — | |

| | Posts. |
|---------------------|------------------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 67 |
| Ikerate | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Cipruis | 2 |
| COLOGNE | 2 |
| Bergen | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| JULIERS | 1 |
| AIX | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| MAESTRICHT | 2 |
| Tongem | 1 |
| St. Trond | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Tirlemont | 2 |
| LOUVAIN | 2 |
| BRUSSELS | 3 |
| Afche | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Aloft | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Quadregt | $1\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Ghent | 1 |
| Alter | 2 |
| | — |
| | 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

Brought

| | Posts. . |
|---------------------|------------------|
| <i>Brought over</i> | 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| BRUGES | 2 |
| OSTEND | 2 |
| | — |
| | 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

N. B. A German post is estimated at twelve English miles.

OBSERVATIONS

On the Passage from India commonly called
*OVER LAND.

THE public service, as well as the interest of many individuals, is materially concerned in the knowledge of what may be the best and most expeditious route between India and this country. I shall not waste the time of my readers by advancing arguments in support of a position so universally admitted as this is. I shall content myself with reminding them of a fact, too melancholy to have been entirely forgotten, and which alone is a sufficient proof of the importance of a speedy conveyance to our settlements in the East.

At the conclusion of the late war, in January 1783, advices were sent to India of the cessation of hostilities both round the Cape of

* As this expression, though extremely incorrect, is warranted by general use both in conversation and in writing, I presume that the reader will not require an apology for its having been adopted in this work.

Good

Good Hope, and over the great desert of Arabia; but through the delays, to which conveyances by those routes are unavoidably subject, the despatches were not received at Madras 'till the beginning of July. On the 13th and 25th days of the preceding month, six months after the date of the preliminary articles, above two thousand gallant men lost their lives in engagements between the French and British forces at Cuddalore, beside those, who fell in the action between the two fleets about the same time. This unnecessary effusion of blood would have been prevented, if Government, or the India Company had possessed such information on the subject of the route to India, as would have enabled them to have transmitted earlier advice to their officers of the important event of the peace.

I sha'l now proceed to the business of this paper, which is to point out, as concisely as possible, the superiority of the route by Constantinople over those by Aleppo and Cairo, which are considerably more expensive of time and money, without affording any greater security

curity to the person of the traveller, than that which I am about to recommend.

The most usual course of those, who now come from India over land, is by the great desert of Arabia, over which they pass with the caravans from Bussora to Aleppo and Latichea, at which latter place they embark for some port of Italy or France. To those, who travel with much baggage, or who are unable to encounter fatigue, this route will certainly be found convenient; as a number of camels and horses may always be procured, proportionable to the quantity of baggage the traveller carries with him; but to those, who are charged with public despatches, or whose affairs require expedition and economy, this, perhaps, is the least suited of any. The times when caravans set out to cross the great desert are uncertain, and rarely occur above once or twice in a year; and, at the slow rate, at which loaded camels travel, they seldom perform their journey under fifty days. If to this you add the tedious navigation of the Levant seas, in which northerly winds

winds prevail three fourths of the year, it will be pretty evident, that this passage FROM India will engage the traveller for at least nine months.

Another mode of crossing the desert* is to hire a guard of forty or fifty men, with whom you set out without waiting for a caravan. This method appears to me the most ineligible of any ; the great expence to which this mode of travelling must be subject, is too obvious to need any particular detail ; neither is it necessary to dwell on the well known risk of being attacked by the Arab plunderers, who in parties of two or three hundred infest the desert.

A third mode of crossing the desert is with four or five Arab guides ; this, I must confess, appears to me preferable to the others :

* The passage over the great desert is almost impracticable from the end of April 'till the end of August, on account of the parching heat of the climate, which few English constitutions are able to endure.

on account of the cheapness and quickness of the journey, which may be performed in this manner in twenty-two or twenty-three days; but it is incompatible with the carrying any large quantity of baggage.

The passage up the Red Sea, and over the little desert to Cairo, and from thence down the Mediterranean, has been lately recommended as more expeditious than the former; this I believe, would be really the case, if the winds were favourable; but the fact is, that northerly winds prevail in those seas, at least ten months of the year; except in that part of the Red Sea, which is within the Tropic; beside the navigation of the Red Sea* is replete with danger and difficulty, which may eventually occasion a greater loss of time, than the more slow, but more certain passage over the great desert. However, pack-

* I am assured by persons of great naval experience, that vessels are sometimes four or five months working up to Suez.

ets might be forwarded to India by this route with as much celerity, perhaps, as by any other; but if sent FROM India this way, must be liable to great and unavoidable delay.

The route I should recommend, in preference to the two already mentioned, would be up the Persian gulph to Buffora, and from thence by the Euphrates in a boat as far as Hilla; then to Bagdad, and from this last place, with a Tatar or Courier, by Diarbekir to Constantinople: instead of embarking here I would proceed by land through Vienna to Ostend; so as to be independent of all the contingencies to which the navigation of the Mediterranean is liable. The whole of the passage FROM India, might thus be performed in a much shorter time than usual; and packets despatched this route to India might reach Bombay in sixty-two days; provided the traveller can bear fatigue, will content himself with such baggage only as is essentially requisite, and submit, for a short time, to the Turkish customs and manner of living:

living: this, I must confess, would not be agreeable to an unpractised person, and, I should imagine, would not be attempted, without very powerful inducements. The advantages of this route are numerous; the traveller, at a small expence, is provided with provisions, and suffers no delay in waiting 'till a caravan can be formed, or escorts collected: if he travels unincumbered with any other baggage, beside his mere necessaries, he avoids being detained on the road by Custom-house officers, and offers no temptation to robbers, who in this country are seldom guilty of violence for a small booty. The face of the country from Bussora to Constantinople is greatly diversified, and presents the curious traveller with a variety of productions, customs, climates, and romantic prospects, which, by engaging the mind, beguile the length of the journey; it also abounds in the necessaries of life, and in that essential article, water, the want of which has been sometimes so painfully experienced by the Caravans of the desert.

From

From Constantinople it is preferable to continue the route by land through Vienna to Oslend, which is practicable in a short time, without any great inconvenience; and obviates the delay of waiting for a vessel, which is afterward to be exposed to the casualties of a voyage of no inconsiderable length.

From England you may reach Vienna in ten days, and Constantinople, I presume, in fifteen days more; from thence you may go to Bagdad by Diarbekir in twelve days, and from Bagdad to Buffora*, in a light boat along the Tigris, in four days. If a vessel is ready there to receive you, Bombay may be reached in twenty-one days.

This, I am persuaded, is perfectly practicable, if our Ministers, and Residents at the different

* I imagine that the journey from Aleppo to Buffora over the desert, would be much sooner performed, if the traveller was to make directly for the Euphrates, and there take boat to go down the river to Buffora.

places, make use of their influence in preventing unnecessary delays, and the person charged with the packet is rewarded according to the diligence he has shewn in the performance of the journey.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR PERFORMING THE JOURNEY FROM

I N D I A,

THROUGH *ASIA MINOR*,

TO C O N S T A N T I N O P L E.

THOSE who intend to take this route, should be at *Buffora* before the end of March, in order to avoid the dangerous heats of the summer, as well as to travel in a season proper for the passage of the high mountains of *Natolia*. For this purpose they should endeavour to procure a passage from *Bengal*, *Madras*, or *Bombay*, direct to *Buffora*. The trade between *India* and this place is so inconsiderable, that, though the Company's cruizers occasionally fail thither with packets from *Bombay*, the finding a passage is extremely precarious; it would therefore be adviseable

180 INSTRUCTIONS,

to freight a vessel (which might be sold with advantage at the conclusion of the voyage) with rice, or such other merchandise as would answer well at Buffora, in preference to the risk and delay of embarking on board the Arab Dingies, or Dows, for Muscat. The navigation of the Persian Gulph, and the mouth of the Euphrates, though not so dangerous as that of the Red Sea, is, however, difficult and tedious, from the prevalency of the North-West winds, which blow here nine months in the year: the most favourable months are December, January, and February; and it may be performed by vessels, which go direct to Buffora, in less than one month; but those that touch at Muscat and Boushier, are usually forty days on their passage.

At Buffora you will purchase provisions for seven or eight days; and having hired a light boat, manned by seven Arabs, you will easily reach Hilla in that time. I was myself sixteen days in performing this part of the journey, owing to the largeness of my boat, which, being

being laden with dates, and drawing much water, was frequently a-ground: you will, therefore, be particularly cautious that the boat you engage is of a small size, and that it carries neither merchandise nor baggage; you will otherwise be subject to the most vexatious delays, from Custom-house officers, &c. and tempt the attacks of the Arabs, who inhabit the banks of the river. When you arrive at Hilla, by means of a letter from the English Résident at Bassora to the Governor, you will obtain horses to carry you to Bagdad, fifty miles distant, where you will be easily conveyed in one day, if you are tolerably well mounted, or change your horse on the road.

At Bagdad I would rid myself of all superfluous baggage, reserving only the articles mentioned in the following list; those which are not in immediate use, should be put up in a Turkish leathern bag, made like a common tobacco pouch, which is more easily filled, and more conveniently fastened to the saddle than a portmanteau; it is also
frequently

frequently found useful as a pillow. This bag you may purchase at Bagdad.

A short Turkish jacket and waistcoat: the long garments of the Turks are heavy and uncomfortable in travelling.

Turkish trowsers; but made considerably narrower than is usual, and worn over a pair of flannel drawers, as it is very important to health to keep the body warm.

A thick boar's-loak, lined with flannel: the baize usually made use of for this purpose is improper, because the Turks do not like to see Christians in garments of either red or green, which were the favourite colours of Mahomet.

Six shirts.

Two or three pair of stockings.

One pair of breeches, one waistcoat, one coat of a thin cloth.

One

One pair of shoes and buckles.

One thick flannel waistcoat, to wear when you pass the mountains.

A small quantity of tea, sugar, and coffee.

A Japan mug, to drink out of; to be carried in the pocket.

A small tin tea pot.

A small tin boiler, with a moveable handle, for the purpose of warming water for tea, or making coffee.

Two sashes; one to be tied round the body, the other to be used occasionally, to protect the head and neck from the sun, or cold winds.

A Turkish cap.

A pair of plain holster pistols.

A pair

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A pair of small ditto, to be carried in the breast.

A broad sword.

A Turkish saddle and bridle; because English articles of that kind excite a troublesome curiosity in the people, who, at the same time, are ignorant of the manner of putting them on.

A pair of Turkish boots.

Should you find it inconvenient to carry with you all the articles named in this list, you may easily leave those out which are the least essential; and, indeed, the smaller your baggage is, the less risk you incur during the whole journey; for all the accidents I have heard of in this country have arisen from the temptation held out to the Arabs, by the appearance of much baggage, or merchandise.

It will be prudent to have all your agreements with boatmen, Tatars, &c. explicitly written,

written, in order that you may not be liable to demands for presents, Custom-house duties, or any other incidental charges; and on the journey to appear neither rich nor poor, that you may equally avoid extortion and contempt*. I cannot sufficiently dwell on the necessity of your opposing any attempt of the Tatar to take merchandise under his charge to Constantinople; for, should this be the case, you will be frequently detained for want of a sufficient number of horses to carry it; and it will be sometimes necessary to wait till

* If you once comply with the importunities of those who may solicit presents from you, the fame of your liberality will travel before you to Constantinople; and unless you are content to be incessantly teized, you will be put to great additional expence. It would not be prudent to attempt so long a journey, without a small sum of money in Venetian sequins, which, on account of their being very portable, and current in every country on the route from India to England, are to be preferred to any other coin: nothing, however, but necessity should compel the traveller to shew that he has cash about him.

guards can be collected to convey you through certain dangerous passes.

A servant may be procured at Buffora or Bagdad, who can speak French or Italian, and will interpret for you on the road; and, with no greater incumbrance than the list of necessary articles I have just given, you will reach Constantinople in twelve, or sixteen days.

The Konacs, so often mentioned in the preceding Journal, are a kind of inns, or post-houses, in which the Tatars put up. On your arrival at them, you are supplied with a matress and pillow, but no covering, which shews the necessity of the cloak I have inserted in the list of necessaries for the journey: * while you are on horseback, it should be placed on the saddle under you, to answer the purpose of a cushion, on which the Tatars frequently ride, to prevent being galled*.

I hope

* Horses are maintained on every road in Turkey, at the expence of Government, to carry the Tatars, who are charged

I hope it will not be thought trifling, to recommend the frequent use of ablutions, either with cold or warm water, as a preservative from the fretting of the skin, which, in so long a journey, would be productive of infinite pain and trouble.

In almost every town in Turkey there are warm baths, which are a great luxury and refreshment to the weary traveller: but I would advise you to use them with caution; because experiments on the constitution are dangerous in a country, where, in case of sickness, neither advice nor attendance are to be procured.

charged with public despatches; and such travellers, as are supplied with passes, and other necessary documents, by the Bashaw of the place from whence they set out. These were the horses we rode from Bagdad to Constantinople.

F I N I S.



